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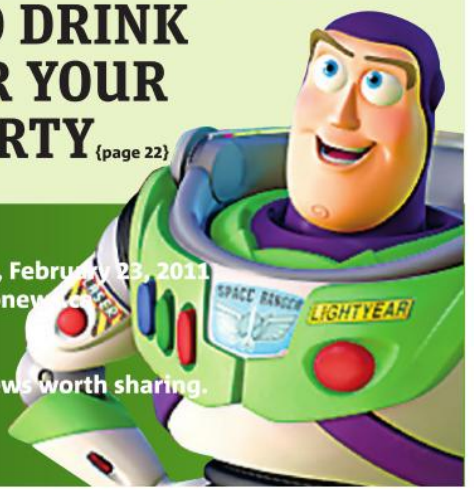
VA-VA-VROOM
PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE CONVERGE AT AUTO SHOW {pages 54-55}

BUILD A BUZZ
FOOD AND DRINK IDEAS FOR YOUR OSCAR PARTY {page 22}



TORONTO metro®
Wednesday, February 23, 2011
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News worth sharing.

Essentially ineligible to strike

Bill would put TTC workers in same category as police, firefighters ◗ NDP MPP says he and his party worry about conservatives ganging up on workers

KYLA SERGEJEW
TORONTO@METRONEWS.CA

Premier Dalton McGuinty introduced legislation yesterday that would declare the TTC an essential service, stripping TTC workers of the right to strike during a contract dispute.

"Obviously we're disappointed," said Bob Kinnear, president of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113. "We have been offering to sit down with the city and work out an agreement."

Kinnear also said the legislation ties into a union-busting agenda on the part of Mayor Rob Ford.

"It's unfortunate that the mayor of this city is too much of a coward to be up front about the fact that that's what he's trying to do," he said.

The Liberal government and the city want the bill passed before the first labour contracts expire at the commission at the end of March.

The ATU had promised not to strike during contract negotiations if plans to designate the TTC an essential service slowed down — to act, in effect, as if the proposed bill had already been put in place.

"We want to be able to provide uninterrupted service. The public believes the TTC is essential."
TTC CHAIRWOMAN KAREN STINTZ

TTC chairwoman Karen Stintz said that arrangement "wouldn't provide security."

In the last 60 years there have been eight transit strikes, the most recent of which lasted two days in April 2008.

"The cost of a strike is $50 million a day," said Stintz. "We would continue to go through collective bargaining — and arbitration where necessary. The goal is still to negotiate with them."

NDP MPP Peter Kormos begs to differ.

"This is not essential-service legislation," he said. "It's legislation to prohibit the right to strike.

"It's not benefiting either party. Everyone knows arbitration is more expensive than negotiated settlements."

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

RIDERS REACT, PAGE 3

Gadhafi. On TV

▶ Moammar Gadhafi is seen in this image broadcast yesterday on Libyan state television.

LIBYA STATE TELEVISION VIA APTN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gadhafi radiates defiance

Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi addressed the nation in Tripoli, vowing to fight on against protesters demanding his ouster. "I am a fighter, a revolutionary from tents ... I will die as a martyr at the end," he said, vowing to fight "to my last drop of blood." More coverage, page 8.

New Zealand city in ruins

Death toll rises as hundreds remain missing {pages 14-15}

Cyrus vs. Cyrus escalates

Miley said to be furious over dad's recent comments {page 27}

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KYLA SERGEJEW/FOR METRO

▶ Subway commuters make their way on the TTC yesterday.

Riders chime in on TTC strike ban

Essential-service legislation welcomed, but some express sympathy for transit workers

KYLA SERGEJEW
TORONTO@METRONEWS.CA

As the provincial government goes over legislation that will declare the TTC an essential service, riders reacted to the proposal yesterday.

Danisch Jamal said he's all for it.

"The TTC is the easiest mode of transportation and it's cost-effective," he said.

The general opinion was that public transit should be made an essential service, but riders also had sympathy for TTC employees.

"When workers go on strike, so many people are inconvenienced. I don't like it, but I have to take it."
DANISCH JAMAL

"Everyone depends on it," said Daniel Simon. "The majority of people don't have a car — but the union should also have a right to strike, because otherwise it turns into a one-way street."

Fellow rider Dan Mallia said he's undecided.

"It's tough. I'm always for people being able to strike if you feel you've been treated unfairly. But we need the service."

1 news

Prominent official decries "ethical bankruptcy" in public health. Scan code for the story.

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Allan Small offers his investment primer for RRSP season. More at metronews.ca/investing

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JOHN R. KENNEDY/FOR METRO

▶ Men play road hockey in a Queen Street parking lot last week to kick off registration for the Toronto Road Hockey To Conquer Cancer tournament on Oct. 1 in support of the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation.

Ball drops on street hockey

Councillor says a ticket has never been issued under road hockey bylaw

MATTHEW LOPES
TORONTO@METRONEWS.CA

Councillors Doug Ford and Michael Thompson are dropping the gloves at city hall and fighting to change a 1970 bylaw that bans street hockey on city streets.

Thompson said the law should be changed to allow kids to play on less active roads. "It's all about neighbourhood kids getting together and playing safely," he said, adding, "we're talking about subdivisions and side streets, we're not advocating kids playing on any major streets.

"It's (street hockey) become an accepted practice and what is a police officer to do? Give a ticket to a 12-year-old for playing hockey."

Scott Hill, director of Hockey Night In Canada's Play On event, an annual street hockey tournament held in many of Canada's major cities, said they have been trying to get the event in Toronto for seven years but haven't been able to get past the bylaws.

"Toronto is not willing to work with us and waive this bylaw," said Hill.

Hill said the law exists in some cities across Canada but those cities, such as Montreal, have worked with Hill to host the event.

#ROADHOCKEY

@Kalofagas: one of the stupidest & most un-Canadian things you can do is ban street hockey. Shame on the City of Toronto.

@marcocerenzia: I feel sorry for kids growing up in Toronto. How the hell is street hockey banned? ... Talk about losing your childhood.

T.O. among best cities to live: List

The golden glow of the Olympics keeps burnishing Vancouver's reputation, helping cement its position as the most livable city in the world in The Economist's new rankings.

Toronto's below-90 per cent rating for its infrastructure (roads, public transit, airports, housing, energy, water and telecommunications) kept it stalled at the No. 4 position on the magazine's annual list.

The list ranks 140 cities worldwide based on 30 factors such as health care, culture and environment, and education and personal safety.

Toronto was less than a percentage point behind Vancouver, 0.3 points behind Melbourne and 0.2 behind Vienna, all of which it outranked on stability.

"Cities that score best tend to be mid-sized cities in wealthier countries with a relatively low population density," The Economist report said.

That mix tends to mean lots of scope for recreation without high crime or crumbling infrastructure.

"Seven of the top 10 scoring cities are in Australia and Canada, where population densities of 2.88 and 3.40 people per square kilometre, respectively, compare with a global (land) average of 45.65 and a U.S. average of 32."

Crime, both petty and violent, and the risk of terrorism clobbered London and New York's rankings, pushing them to 53rd and 56th. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ A child plays in the water on Centre Island last summer.

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By **Jamie Golombek**
Managing Director,
Tax and Estate Planning,
CIBC

Few things in life are as certain as taxes, but since January 2009 Canadians have had access to a valuable exception: the Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA). A versatile, tax-efficient and flexible savings solution, TFSAs are a great complement to almost any individual's overall financial plan.

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TFSA earnings grow tax-free and account holders can withdraw funds at any time

TFSAs are also quick and easy to open. And they're useful to hold in addition to other registered plans, such as RRSPs or Registered Education Saving Plans (RESPs), especially if you've already exceeded your annual contribution limit or the lifetime maximum.

Additionally, there's an added incentive to those who have yet to open a TFSA account to do so now. You now have the opportunity to contribute up to $15,000 for 2011 as your carry-forward amount builds each year.

To take advantage of this tax-saving opportunity, talk to an advisor about how a TFSA could help you reach your financial goals, whether you're looking to save for today's needs or your dream retirement. An advisor can also help you select the options that best align to your personal financial needs from savings accounts and GICs to mutual funds, managed portfolios and brokerage solutions.

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Ex-Leafs star fights charges

Witness Fernando Bernardo testifies he spotted a man driving erratically Vaive told police he had 'a beer' Officer says Vaive had a wet spot on his pants

Witness

Court heard earlier from Fernando Bernardo, who said he and his family went to the plaza to get milk when he spotted a man who looked "unwell" leaning against a pickup and then later get into the driver's seat.

- **Bernardo said** the pickup almost hit a building in the plaza as it drove away.
- **He called police** because he was concerned about the safety of others on the street, Bernardo said.

Former Leafs captain Rick Vaive reeked of a "very strong odour of alcohol" when stopped in his pickup truck on Highway 427 in 2009, a police officer told a Newmarket court yesterday.

Vaive, 51, is on trial for impaired driving in the July 2009 incident. He pleaded not guilty before Justice Anne-Marie Hourigan.

Const. Carl Young of York Region police testified he pulled over the former Leafs star after a man called 911 and reported seeing a man stumbling and driving erratically at a plaza near Pine Valley Drive and Highway 7 in Vaughan.

Young said he followed the truck on westbound Highway 407 and pulled it over as the truck took the ramp to the southbound 427.

The officer said Vaive's eyes were red, watery and bloodshot when he approached the driver's window.

Young said Vaive had a wet stain "in the crotch region" of his shorts that was "about six inches in diameter."

He said Vaive told him he was returning from a charity golf tournament and had "a beer," but had been drinking the night before with friends. The trial continues.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JIM WILKES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Former Leafs captain Rick Vaive leaves court yesterday in Newmarket, where he pleaded not guilty to impaired driving.

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Gadhafi vows to fight to 'last drop of blood'

After a week of upheaval, protesters backed by defecting army units claim control over almost entire eastern half of Libya's Mediterranean coast ● International alarm rose, sending oil prices to highest level in 2 years

A defiant Moammar Gadhafi vowed to fight to his "last drop of blood" and roared at supporters to strike back against Libyan protesters to defend his embattled regime yesterday, signalling an escalation of the crackdown that has thrown the capital into scenes of mayhem, wild shooting and bodies in the streets.

The speech by the Libyan leader — who shouted and pounded his fists on the podium — was an all-out call for his backers to impose control over the capital and take back other cities.

"You men and women who love Gadhafi ... get out of your homes and fill the streets," he said. "Leave your homes and attack them in their lairs."

Celebratory gunfire by Gadhafi supporters rang out in the capital of Tripoli after the leader's speech, while in protester-held Benghazi, Libya's second-largest city, people threw shoes in contempt at a screen showing his address.

State TV showed a crowd of Gadhafi supporters in Tripoli's Green Square, raising his portrait and waving flags as they swayed to music after the address.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada

The government is working on plans to evacuate Canadians from strife-torn Libya as security forces there continue their attempts to crush a popular uprising, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said yesterday.

As the death toll continued to mount on the streets of the North African nation, Harper said federal officials were in contact with Canadian citizens and the companies many of the Canadians are working for in Libya.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALAGUIRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Libyans stand on an army tank at the state security camp in Benghazi, Libya, yesterday.

Holy guacamole!

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4 Americans killed by Somali pirates

It wasn't known whether hostages had made an escape attempt or whether disagreements among pirates prompted shots: U.S. officers

GETTY IMAGES

Jean and Scott Adam

JOE GRANDE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Phyllis Macay and Bob Riggle

An adventurous quartet of retired yacht enthusiasts from California and Washington state were living their dreams, friends say, sailing around the world until they were shot and killed by Somali pirates yesterday.

The yacht's owners, Jean and Scott Adam of Marina del Rey near Los Angeles, along with Bob Riggle and Phyllis Macay of Seattle, were taken hostage Friday several hundred kilometres south of Oman. U.S. naval forces trailing the captured yacht with four warships quickly boarded the vessel after hearing the gunfire yesterday, but the Americans died of their wounds. Two pirates were killed and 13 captured.

Some of the victims were still alive when they were found by the U.S. team and were given first aid, but all four died, said Vice-Admiral Mark Fox, the commander of U.S. naval forces in the region.

The United States strongly condemned the killings off East Africa yesterday and urged the world to work to bring maritime criminals to justice.

A flotilla of U.S. naval vessels had been shadowing the yacht, known as the Quest, for three days and conducted negotiations over the weekend in an effort to free the two couples as the yacht made its way south toward Somalia, said Lt.-Col. Mike Lawhorn, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, which oversees U.S. anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean.

There were signs of divisions among the 19 pirates during the hostage standoff, U.S. officers said.

The hostage-taking turned fatal yesterday morning when the pirates fired a rocket-propelled grenade at the Sterett, which missed, and U.S. naval personnel heard gunshots coming from the yacht. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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REQUEST

Electricity rates may rise again

Electricity ratepayers in Ontario, already reeling from soaring prices, should brace for yet another increase.

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is expected to rule shortly on a request from Ontario Power Generation (OPG) for a 6.2 per cent increase in electricity rates effective March 1.

The Liberal government has been under non-stop attack over rising electricity rates, especially since the HST was added to hydro bills last July, but Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday he wouldn't be directing the OEB on the rate request.

"The OPG request is the kind of thing that will have to be considered by the Ontario Energy Board," McGuinty said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ointment could treat osteoporosis

Nitroglycerin ointment applied by post-menopausal women modestly increased bone mineral density and decreased bone loss, according to results of a Canadian study published yesterday. Now the nitroglycerin ointment is being looked at as a possible treatment for osteoporosis.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories downplay crime report

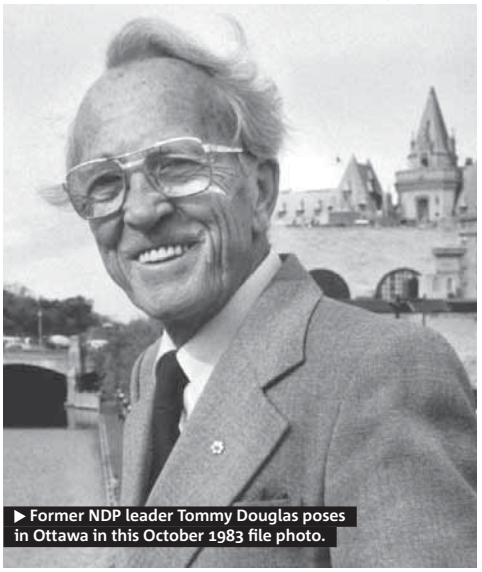
Public Safety Minister Vic Toews is downplaying a report that slams his government's prison-expanding agenda as a denial of falling crime rates. The report was published yesterday by Toronto criminal lawyer Edward Greenspan and criminologist Anthony Doob of the University of Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former RCMP officer recalls Cold War hunt

- Communist hunt prompted intense monitoring of groups: Former Mountie
- More than one-third of pages in RCMP files remain completely blacked out

CHRIS SCHWARZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Former NDP leader Tommy Douglas poses in Ottawa in this October 1983 file photo.

He doesn't remember signing off on the secret memos more than 40 years ago.

But retired Mountie Ed Witherden vividly recalls the Cold War hunt for Communist infiltrators that spawned the classified documents found in the RCMP's thick file on fabled politician Tommy Douglas.

"We were looking at people who we thought were trying to overthrow the government — through working with the Communists, or the anarchists, the Trotskyists, the whole crew," Witherden, 80, said in an interview.

"And it was a pretty broad brush treatment. Bear in mind the instructions we had from the government were limited. There weren't the constraints that there are now. So, yeah, we sent people out to watch protest movements." Witherden, then an Ottawa staff inspector in the RCMP Security Service, passed along several reports to headquarters in 1966-67 on the anti-Vietnam War movement and a Marxist-Christian discussion group.

"I thought we were earning our money, and I thought we were providing a useful service to the Canadian citizenry."

ED WITHERDEN, RETIRED MOUNTIE

Douglas, who was adamantly opposed to the Vietnam conflict and mingled with countless left-wing activists, is mentioned in all of the memos.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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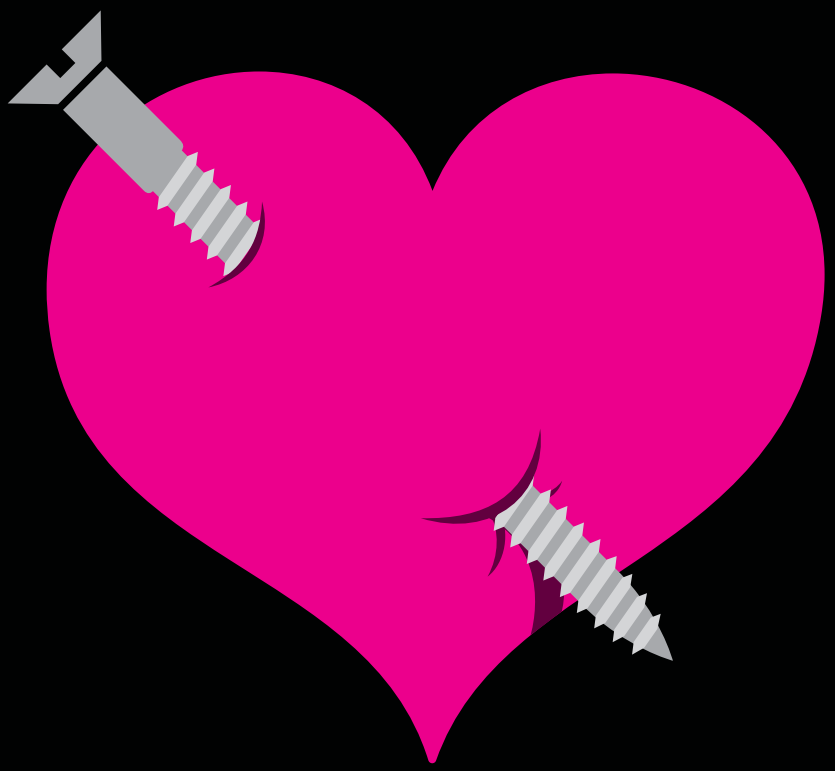

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Canadians struggle to reach relatives

Anxious relatives in Canada spent hours trying to reach loved ones, but with most phone access cut and Internet spotty, getting news was difficult.

Shary Bakker, 26, who moved from Toronto with her husband and two babies to Christchurch earlier this month, managed to get a call out to her mother about nine hours after the quake to say they were safe. The family was on the third floor of their student residence just west of the city and were shaken up but otherwise unhurt.

But with their university residence evacuated pending a safety inspection and the school closed, the family was considering leaving the city for the time being.

Friends and relatives seeking information on Canadian citizens in the area were being urged to contact the Foreign Affairs Department at 1-800-387-3124 or 613-996-8885, or via email at sos@international.gc.ca.

Callers had to endure lengthy waits to get anyone on the phone.

The department said early yesterday it had received no reports of any Canadians killed or injured in the 6.3-magnitude quake.

While it was difficult to gauge just how many Canadians were in the southern island city, Christchurch is a "hugely popular" tourist destination, and it's likely there were several hundred Canadian visitors in the area, said Max Johnson, owner of the Great Canadian Travel Company in Winnipeg.

None of his clients were there during the quake, he added.

"We have people that were about to go but probably won't now," Johnson said.

"It's unimaginable, and just after they cleaned up the last one."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rescuers dig through rubble

Some survivors had to have limbs amputated before being freed from rubble Officials say at least 300 people are still missing

Some screamed from inside collapsed buildings. One woman used her cellphone to call her children to say goodbye. Others tapped on the rubble to communicate with those on the outside.

Search teams used their bare hands, dogs, heavy cranes and earth movers early today to pull 120 survivors from the rubble of a powerful earthquake in one of New Zealand's largest cities. Officials raised the death toll to at least 75, with 300 others listed as missing.

As rescuers dug through the crumbled concrete, twisted metal and huge mounds of brick across Christchurch, officials feared the death toll could rise further, ranking the 6.3-magnitude earthquake among the island nation's worst in 80 years.

"There are bodies littering the streets, they are trapped in cars, crushed under rubble, and where they are clearly deceased our focus ... has turned to the living," Superintendent Russell Gibson said.

Medical workers brought the injured to a triage centre set up in a park in central Christchurch, while military units patrolled near-empty streets disfigured by the huge cracks and canyons created in yesterday's earthquake, the second powerful temblor to hit the city in the past five months.

"We are getting texts and tapping sounds from some of these buildings, and that's where our focus is."
SUPERINTENDENT RUSSELL GIBSON

The quake toppled the spire of the city's historic stone cathedral, flattened tall buildings and sent chunks of concrete and bricks hurtling onto cars, buses and pedestrians below.

"People were covered in rubble, covered in several tons of concrete," said web designer Nathaniel Boehm, who was outside on his lunch break when the quake struck yesterday.

He saw the eaves of buildings cascade onto the street, burying people below.

"It was horrific," he said.

The Pyne Gould Guinness Building, housing more than 200 workers, collapsed. Rescuers, many of them office workers, dragged severely injured people out.

Many had blood streaming down their faces. Screams could be heard from those still trapped.

The earthquake knocked out power and telephone lines and burst pipes, flooding the streets with water. Firefighters climbed ladders to pluck people trapped on roofs of office towers to safety.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MARTIN HUNTER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Rescue workers search for survivors.

Canadians live to tell temblor's tale

The earthquake sounded like a truck as it roared through the shuddering home of a Canadian couple who live in the now-devastated New Zealand city of Christchurch.

Eleisha McNeill described as "astounding" the noise produced by the 6.3-magnitude temblor, the second major quake to hit the region in the last five months.

"It was like a giant had picked up the house and was shaking it, and not just up and down but side to side," McNeill said in a telephone interview.

"Everything that could fall down did fall down — it looked like a bomb had gone off in there."

McNeill, 35, and her husband, Davin Hall, moved to Christchurch from Toronto in November for parental leave and got married last month.

"I don't know if the place we got married at is still standing," Hall said ruefully. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada reacts

▶ Laureen Harper

Prime Minister Stephen Harper offered his condolences and said Canada was willing to help in any way it could.

- His wife, Laureen, lived in Christchurch as a young girl and his family still has friends there whom they were trying to contact, Harper said.
- He has reached out to New Zealand Prime Minister John Key to offer assistance, Harper added.
- "That country has had a very rough year," he said

Location led to more damage: Expert

The latest New Zealand earthquake is five times smaller than the one that rocked the area last September yet caused much more destruction.

Why?

Scientists say it's all about location. Yesterday's 6.3-magnitude quake was centred about five kilometres from the populated hub of Christchurch, toppling buildings and killing dozens.

The location, the timing during the middle of a workday and the quake's shallow depth of five kilometres combined to make a deadly mix. The jolt was "squarely beneath the city itself," said seismologist Egill Hauksson of the California Institute of Technology.

Scientists classified it as an aftershock of the 7-magnitude that struck last Sept. 4. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARK MITCHELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Cars are abandoned yesterday on a flooded street in suburban Christchurch.

Aftershocks

Since September, about half a dozen aftershocks greater than magnitude-5 have rattled Christchurch.

- "You can have an aftershock months after the main shock," said geophysicist Paul Earle of the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo.

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Spurned lover charged with arson

Melanie Ann Bos stands charged with arson and mischief. Under the terms of her release, Bos is living under house arrest with a friend in Oshawa. She is allowed to go to work at GM but must be accompanied by her friend whenever she leaves the house.

A $15,000 bond has been posted and she is prohibited from having contact with a dozen people, including her former boyfriend Jim Hoy, her husband and her daughter.

Bos will plead not guilty, says her lawyer, John Whelton, who declined to comment further while the case is before the courts. A trial date has not been set.

GM officials would not disclose any information about Bos, who now goes by her maiden name of Chandler.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Melanie Ann Bos

"We won't comment on any issues surrounding our employees," said communications director Tony LaRocca.

Hoy struggles to make sense of it all, but he keeps his thoughts to himself in anticipation of the trial. He's still trying to see through the smoke and mirrors.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ The romance between a GM manager and former top union leader Jim Hoy, pictured, went sour when she was charged with setting his house on fire while he slept. Inset: Hoy's country house in Courtice which was destroyed by fire in June 2009.

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TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Burning affair a bad romance

‘When I started going out with her, everything was really good at first,’ says retired CAW leader ◗ Things started to unravel when he went into business with his GM manager lover ◗ Story already optioned for movie

She was a rising star in management at General Motors. He was a former senior union leader at the carmaker’s Oshawa plant. But their romance went up in flames when she was charged with setting his house on fire — with him in it.

“It’s quite a story,” says Jim Hoy, who woke up at 5:30 a.m. to the smell of smoke that day in June 2009. “Nobody believes it.”

Turns out there’s much he didn’t know about the woman he proposed to six months into their love affair, according to Hoy, who says his brother has acquired the movie rights to the tale.

It was only the day before her arrest, Hoy says, that he learned her husband was still very much alive, contrary to what she’d told him.

Hoy met Melanie Ann Bos 20 years ago at GM, where she rose to become manager of the stamping plant, overseeing about 225 workers who make body panels for cars. He worked for Local 222 of the Canadian Auto Workers, the largest union local in the country’s auto industry.

A former CAW leader described him as competent, conservative and someone who would always try to find solutions to problems and conflicts.

“I found out her husband was still alive, but she was engaged to be married to me.”
JIM HOY

After retiring following 28 years of service, and leaving his position as first vice-president of Local 222 and plant chairperson, Hoy took friends’ advice and asked Bos out in the fall of 2007.

“I’d known her for years and years and we got along good in our professional relationship,” he recalls of their time spent working on labour issues together.

“She was friendly. She was absolutely brilliant, well educated, a rising star at GM,” says the well-groomed, youthful-looking 50-year-old.

GM insiders describe her as a talented “up-and-comer” and one of the top 50 senior employees at General Motors of Canada Ltd.

With what he says was her assertion that her husband had died many years ago, Bos, now 44, and Hoy began a romantic relationship. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Lover discovers secrets, lies

Looking back, Jim Hoy realizes Bos was leading a double life, “big time.” But nothing seemed amiss, even though when they spent time together it was always at his place and never hers, he says. He was out of town a lot and had plenty of work to do looking after his own property.

He has met her grown children but says they were told not to mention his name around their dad.

Around the time Hoy learned about Bos’s marital status, he woke to the smell of smoke. His house, which was being renovated, had been set ablaze. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

The husband

- Her husband, meanwhile, had discovered she was involved with another man.
- “He figured her and I were trying to kill him, and I thought he was dead,” Hoy says in amazement. The two men have since become good friends.

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MICHAEL KASISKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ German Archbishop of Cologne Joachim Cardinal Meisner ordains Harm Klueting.

Church ordains father ... of two

New priest, a converted Lutheran, allowed to remain married ◗ Archdiocese waives vow of celibacy ◗ As of 1950, church policy has allowed converted clergy to keep wives

In a rare move that needed the Pope's approval, a Lutheran convert was ordained yesterday as a Catholic priest in Germany and is being allowed to remain married to his wife — who has already become a nun.

Harm Klueting, 61, was ordained by Archbishop Joachim Cardinal Meisner in a private ceremony at the city's seminary, the Cologne archdiocese said.

Pope Benedict XVI gave Klueting special permission to remain married to his wife, Edeltraut Klueting, who became a Catholic Carmelite nun in 2004.

The Rev. Federico Lombardi, the Vatican's chief spokesman, said the exception is rare but there have been similar cases.

"It doesn't happen every day," he said.

Klueting and his wife were Lutherans when they married in 1977 and both served as Lutheran clerics before converting to Catholicism several years ago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Women's website coming to Canada

30M iVillage says it's the largest content-driven community for women online, reaching more than 30 million unique visitors a month in the United States.

Online media site iVillage and Rogers Media have formed a partnership to launch a Canadian version of a popular website for women.

Rogers will operate iVillage.ca, which allows women to connect, share advice and read about topics such as parenting, health, food and entertainment.

The Toronto-based media company said a team of editors and writers in Canada will offer content from iVillage.com, iVillage.co.uk and from Rogers' media properties such as Chatelaine.com, sweetspot.ca and Citytv.

It's the first major international partnership for New York-based iVillage since it launched its United Kingdom site in 2000. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Indy race series issues challenge to amateurs

The IndyCar Series is putting up $5 million US for any driver who thinks he or she can beat the open-wheel professionals at their own game in their championship race in Las Vegas.

IndyCar Series CEO Randy Bernard said up to five outside drivers can compete in the race if they're picked by a selection committee and qualify on the track the weekend of the race. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Limbaugh suggests Obama is a hypocrite

U.S. conservatives call Michelle Obama fat, step up attacks on her program to fight childhood obesity

Rush Limbaugh and other conservative commentators have stepped up their attacks in recent days against Michelle Obama's efforts to combat childhood obesity, a seemingly motherhood-and-apple-pie mission for the U.S. president's wife that has nonetheless infuriated them for months.

Obama, 46, they say, is a hypocrite who clearly isn't following her own advice when it comes to staying healthy.

"... Our first lady does not project the image of women that you might see on the cover of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue, or of a woman Alex Rodriguez might date every six months or what have you." RUSH LIMBAUGH

"The problem is — and dare I say this — it doesn't look like Michelle Obama follows her own nutritionary, dietary advice," Limbaugh said on his radio show, referring to a meal of short ribs Obama enjoyed over the weekend on a skiing break in Colorado with her children.

Obesity costs the U.S. $270 billion US per year in lost productivity and increased medical costs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAROLYN KASTE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Michelle Obama

Malcolm X. Daughter

▶ This photo provided by the Madison County Sheriff's Office shows the daughter of slain civil rights leader Malcolm X, Malikah Shabazz, in a North Carolina jail.

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kin could be extradited to N.Y.

Shabazz could be extradited to New York to face charges on outstanding warrants, authorities say. Investigators found that the 45-year-old had outstanding warrants from Queens, N.Y., that include charges for grand larceny, forgery and identity theft.

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GASOLINE RALLY

No price shocks at pumps

Canadian gasoline prices will stay high but stable amid political unrest in the oil-rich Middle East, analysts say.

The national average for a litre of regular gas yesterday was $1.13, Gasbuddy.com reports. That's up about 14 per cent from the same time last year but little changed from a month ago, when violence erupted in the Arab world.

The North American supply of crude oil is currently high, keeping prices stable, said Chris Feltin of Macquarie Research in Calgary. "We shouldn't expect to see a major price shock in the near term," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Google's tactics unfair: Site

French search engine 1plusV filed a complaint yesterday with the European Union about alleged anti-competitive behaviour by Google Inc., which it says blocked companies from using its online advertising service.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft	Gold contracts
+ $5.71 US	$3.867 (– 4.3¢)	$1,401.10
($95.42 US)		(+ $12.50)

Legal fight brewing over sponsorship deal

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Molson won the first period in the NHL sponsorship game, but rival Labatt is vowing to drop the mitts.

Molson takes Labatt to the boards as 'official beer' of the NHL

Molson Canadian is set to become the official beer of the NHL — but not if Labatt has anything to say about it.

In a deal announced yesterday, Molson has signed on for what is believed to be the most lucrative sponsorship in league history. Terms of the seven-year deal weren't disclosed, but a source said it came in at slightly more than $375 million US.

The agreement with brewers Molson Coors in Canada and MillerCoors in the U.S. will see the sister companies heavily represented across the NHL calendar starting next season.

"Molson Canadian is really synonymous with hockey ... so this is a really nice fit with what the brand is all about," said Dave Perkins, president and CEO of Molson Coors Canada.

"It's a monster deal. (Molson is) going to have major positions across all of our events."
JOHN COLLINS, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, NHL

But Labatt Breweries of Canada, the official beer sponsor of the NHL for more than a decade, said it may consider legal action, insisting Labatt and the NHL had agreed on terms to renew its sponsorship deal until 2014.

"We have an agreement with the league and are pursuing all legal remedies to enforce this agreement," said Charlie Angelakos, Labatt vice-president of corporate affairs. "We will pursue this aggressively."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Low retail sales erode confidence

Canadian shoppers ended 2010 on a miserly note, adding some uncertainty about the strength of the economic recovery.

Retail sales edged down 0.2 per cent to $37.3 billion in December, while sales volumes fell 0.4 per cent.

But some analysts weren't ready to scale back their recent revisions on Canadian GDP estimates. The consensus calls for fourth-quarter growth to come in at three per cent, and an even stronger start to 2011.

There were extenuating circumstances, the economists said, including the cold weather and the fact that many Canadians did their Christmas shopping in November, taking advantage of "Black Friday" sales.

The big negative in December retail data was, as expected, new auto sales, which fell 2.7 per cent, ending seven straight monthly gains. But economist Emanuella Enenajor with CIBC noted that Statistics Canada has already reported that auto sales were on the mend in January, rising three per cent.

Other signs augur well for the economy, particularly the strong rebound already underway in the U.S., which should lift Canadian exports. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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FAMILY HAS BECOME A ROYAL BORE

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

Is it just me or is this Kate Middleton/Prince William/Colin Firth edition of the British Royal Family really boring?

Whatever happened to the scandal-ridden good old days of Sarah Ferguson, the "Duchess of Pork," Prince Andrew, Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles, oh my, not to mention Dodi Fayed and the tragic Princess Di?

That stuff was a thrill a minute. Remember when Charles was caught imagining himself as a tampon in Camilla's "trousers?" A sublime combination of titillating and disgusting — those were the days.

Now, all of a sudden, Britain's foremost dysfunctional family is getting a radical makeover. William and Kate are perfect, well-behaved and beautiful. Neither has been caught getting his or her toes sucked, having an affair with a dashing cavalry major, or offering "access" to Prince Andrew for the equivalent of $720,000.

And adding insult to injury, the latest English stuffed-costume drama, The King's Speech, turns George VI's speech impediment into an adventure worthy of the quest for the Holy Grail, starring Firth. It manages to redeem the entire Royal Family by elevating the good son, Albert, over the bad son, Edward. And, of course, Albert — George VI — was Queen Elizabeth's father. Good breeding and all that.

For years, good Queen Bess used to stomp around this or that royal pile with the corgis, grumbling about her wayward children. But now, in her dotage, the next generation has come off the bench and saved the day. Hooray for England!

Bah.

Still, we who thirst for royal scandals can "keep our peckers up," as my English grandmother used to say to a chorus of stifled guffaws. Prince Charles and his *Camilla horribilis* refuse to go away. He still wants awfully to be king even though the entire known universe prefers Wills and Kate.

And then there's Harry, William's kid brother, and a real scandal looking for a place to erupt. Even though he's still younger than 30, he has managed to offend … everyone. Referring to a Pakistani commander as a "raghead," smoking marijuana and getting into a fight with a photographer outside a nightclub — all good. But he displayed world-class bad taste when he turned up at a party in Nazi brownshirt regalia, evoking memories of his great grand uncle Edward's fondness for Hitler and his legendary capacity for making the trains run on time.

For now, though, someone has got Harry, Fergie, Andy, Charles and Camilla, etc., on a short leash, and Kate and Wills and honorary Windsor Colin are having their moment in the spotlight.

As they used to say in the tea commercials: Pity.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Sunscreen won't block this

Worth mentioning

Leading scientists are warning that a massive solar storm could trigger a $2-trillion "global Katrina" that short-circuits power grids worldwide.

"Power grids, air traffic control systems and intelligent transport systems need to be looked at," Stephan Lechner, director of the European Commission Institute for Protection and Security of the Citizen, told a weekend meeting.

"This is not a matter of if, it is simply a matter of when and how big," said Jane Lubchenco, head of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"There will be space weather storms that are more frequent and more powerful," NOAA space scientist Joseph Kunches told the Toronto Star yesterday. "We're entering a new solar season."

Just what will be hit and how is part of what scientists are debating.

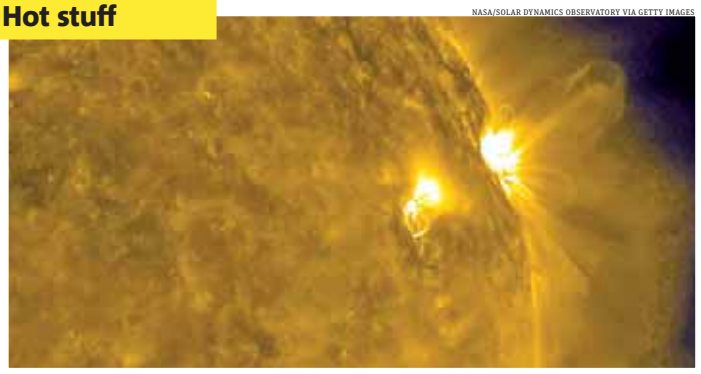
Powerful solar flares ignite a geomagnetic storm that can shoot direct currents into the power grid, Kunches explained. The domino effect could cripple transformers and special equipment that could take months or years to replace, he said.

Power grids operate with expensive "not off-the-shelf" machinery. Hence, the $2-trillion price tag.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hot stuff

NASA/SOLAR DYNAMICS OBSERVATORY VIA GETTY IMAGES



Which cartoon character do you most resemble?

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Metro Minute with Bollywood star

When you think of cars the first thing that springs to mind is Bollywood, right? No?

OK, let's try that again. When you think of cars the first thing that springs to mind is a beautiful woman. Still no?

All right, here's the deal. Chevrolet Canada is bringing former Miss Universe finalist and Bollywood star Neha Dhupia to perform tomorrow night at the Canadian International AutoShow.

She will be dancing with the Shiamak Davar Dance Company to the backdrop of some of the sleekest, sexiest chrome plating you'll ever see. Cars, babes, art, and culture. How many times do you get to experience that at the same time?

JORDANA DIVON

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Bollywood star Neha Dhupia will perform tomorrow at 8 p.m. on the Chevrolet Stage at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre as part of the auto show.

2 scene

Stolen Gossip

A Spanish photo agency says coveted shots of Shakira holding hands with Barcelona football player Gerard Pique that are circulating on the Internet had been stolen by a computer hacker from a temporary Internet file. The agency Gtres-Online and other agencies had been planning to sell these photos to Spanish and other publications as exclusives.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No matter how celebrated the star, their first Oscar trip is unforgettable

Oscar-themed mixes and munchies make the party

Metro's entertainment staff cooks up some apps and aperitifs for hours of speeches from the kings and queens of the acting world Punch up an award-winning night with themes

PARTY THEME

Want to score a TKO? Transform your Oscar party into a boxing ring — complete with robes and gloves. A punching bag may help the frustration if your film doesn't win.

THE MUNCHIES

The film is set in Boston, so some piping hot clam chowder is the perfect fit. For dessert — a Boston Cream Pie. If your guests are still puckish, try some Knuckle Sandwiches.

THE MIX

Beer is the drink of choice. Try serving up some cold Samuel Adams — named after one of the Founding Fathers of the United States.

Drape your castle in some Union Jack-themed bunting. Give each of your guests a microphone so they can make their own acceptance speeches.

At one point in the film, the future king was forced to place marbles in his mouth. We have a tastier option: crumpets, scones and cucumber sandwiches — without the crusts.

For the teetotalers, we suggest a good brew, like Earl Grey. For those who want something a little stronger, try a gin and tonic or a good whiskey.

This film may be a Western, but there's no need to keep things traditional. Forego the hay bales, but provide your guests with cowboy hats and fake sheriffs' badges.

We recommend bison burgers to keep your guests well fed. Trail mix will satisfy their hunger as the awards show broadcast drags on longer then expected.

Spoiler alert! Serve up Snakebites made from equal parts of lager and cider with a dash of blackcurrant cordial.

Have your guests show up with their favourite toy or stuffed animal. Place toy soldiers strategically around the room to add a bit of whimsy.

Serve peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with a side of animal crackers or Gummi Bears.

Jell-o shots are a great way to bring out the kid in any adult. Alternatively, serve glasses of cold milk — well, a White Russian — or juice boxes spiked with vodka.

Drop by your local Mountain Equipment Co-op and pick up some climbing ropes you can hang from your ceiling.

Power bars will keep your guests' energy levels up as the lengthy broadcast plays out.

Give everyone a water bottle filled with their favourite spirits. They can also sip on Orange Gatorade — that James Franco craves in the film.

MORE MIX 'N MUNCHIES

INCEPTION

- Have your guests arrive dressed like Sigmund Freud and spend the commercial breaks analyzing each other's dreams.

WINTER'S BONE

- Bud and Bud Lite are both from Missouri, where this Ozark-tale is set.

BLACK SWAN

- Pretend its opening night and splash open a bottle of celebratory champagne while a Tchaikovsky score plays quietly in the background to set the mood.

THE KID'S ARE ALRIGHT

- Serve Californian red wine and a meal made with organic ingredients grown locally as an homage to actor Mark Ruffalo's character in the film, who owns an organic food restaurant.

THE SOCIAL NETWORK

- Who cares about the awards, invite your friends over and Facebook all night.

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MARK WAHLBERG

Star and producer of Best Picture nominee The Fighter

"Tangled. I love it. I saw it with my daughter and it's a father-and-daughter story basically."

TODD LIEBERMAN

Producer of Best Picture nominee The Fighter

"Other than my own, I loved Inception. Chris Nolan is a phenomenal filmmaker and the mind that he has is well beyond any mental capacity that I have. And it was so brilliantly done. I also love Toy Story 3 as well. It's funny. It's heartfelt."

AARON SORKIN

Nominated screen-writer of The Social Network

"I'm an absolute nut for The King's Speech. I would have given anything if I had written it, but I wouldn't have written it as well as David Seidler."

LEONARD MALTIN

Film critic

"The King's Speech is such a buoyant, witty wonderful film. The script is so good — the performances are so juicy and rich. It's such a pleasure. You sit there smiling watching the film unfold. The Social Network is another one of my top choices. It's so literate, so incisive, so relevant."

DAVID O. RUSSELL

Best Director nominee for The Fighter

"I loved The Kids Are All Right. I watched it a bunch of times. I kind of felt the story. I have a 16-year-old who pushed me away. So to me, that is what the story is about, if you're gay or straight."

JACKI WEAVER

Best Supporting Actress nominee, Animal Kingdom

"I loved Toy Story 3. I think it's a beautiful piece of filmmaking. It's a wonderful story and very touching, poignant and witty. It's got it all. And everything Annette Bening does is fabulous, like The Kids are All Right. I think she's an amazingly good actress and she knows about character."

ARMIE HAMMER

Best Picture nominee The Social Network

"I liked True Grit, but mostly because I love westerns."

SEBASTIAN JUNGER

Co-director of Best Documentary nominee Restrepo

"I thought that Get Low was tremendous. Robert Duvall is such an amazing actor. It's a beautiful movie. And 127 Hours was pretty amazing. The acting was great. The cinematography was amazing. Animal Kingdom is an amazing movie, too."

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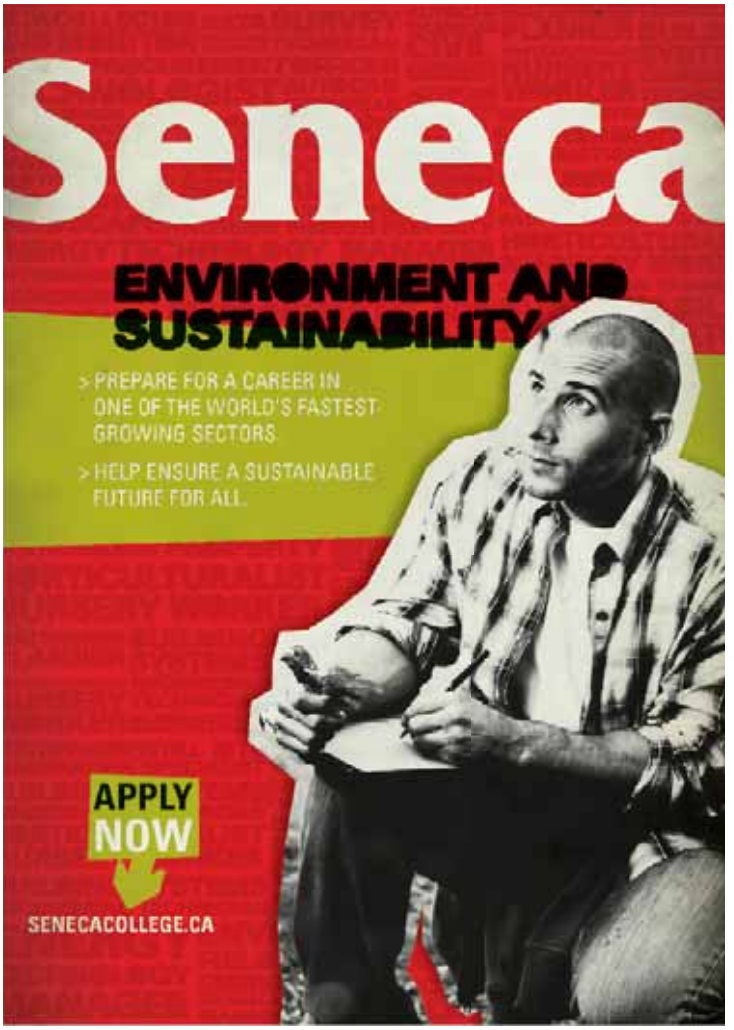
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HANDOUT

▶ Owen Wilson, left, with directors Bobby Farrelly and Peter Farrelly on the set of their new film Hall Pass.

Hall Pass revoked

Crude comedy explores married couples taking sexual vacations and the consequences that come with it ● Director insists it's a morality tale

ANNE BRODIE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

"We thought it was a very, very funny idea about the sacred institution of marriage. We're both married guys," says Bobby Farrelly.

Filmmaking siblings Peter and Bobby Farrelly's new R-rated comedy Hall Pass asks what would happen if married couples had sexual vacations from each other with no consequences?

It's the Farrelly's first foray into the family milieu but their signature looney, misguided, sex mad, and bodily-function crazed world view remains intact.

Owen Wilson and Jenna Fischer, along with Christina Applegate and Jason Sudeikis are on Hall Passes.

The men are ecstatic until their wives jump in, just as eager to participate.

Hijinks are too lewd and crude to repeat here, but it's a sexual free-for-all.

Applegate's character goes the farthest, hooking up with a young guy who dumps her for being "too old."

Her punishment is Farrell-esque.

"She crosses the line and has to pay the price. She went to places she felt she shouldn't have gone, so she needed to get a little bit of a spanking."

Farrelly says there's a strong moral code within the crudity.

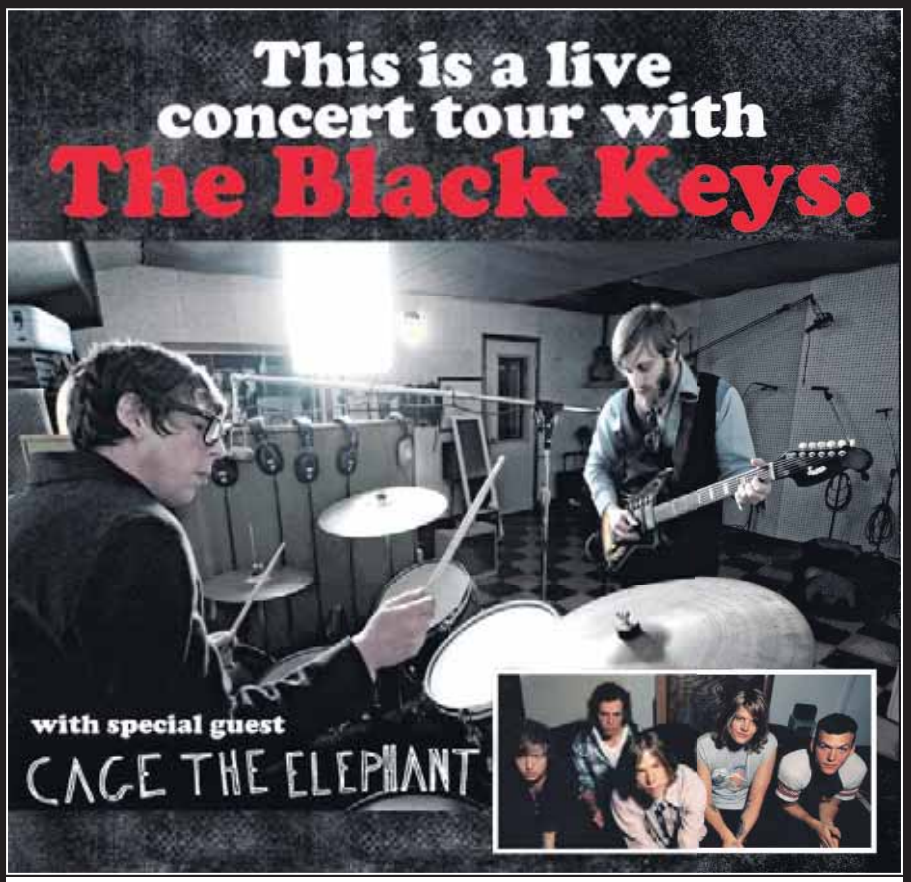
"We want it to be beneath the gags. We want to have a sweet story with a nice ending so people walk out and there has been a positive story told. The big jokes and pratfalls camouflage it."

Hall Pass

Behind the scenes and background.

- **Credits** Marc Fischer was the executive producer of Hall Pass.
- **Another film** Fischer is also an executive producer for the Farrelly brothers' Three Stooges film, which last year had already begun pre-production work in Georgia.

American Express Presale



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RETURNING FROM HELL FAIRLY COMMON

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Type in "visitor from hell" on Google and you get about 12,900,000 results in 0.17 seconds. There are ghost stories, a site for a traditional Irish band called Visitor from Hell and stories about unpleasant house guests, but I was more interested in actual visitors from hell. Celluloid demons, tortured souls and devilish characters that somehow manage to slink back from the depths of movie hell to visit us here on Earth.

Nicolas Cage, who emerged from hell in 2004s Ghost Rider, comes back from the depths for the second time this weekend in a movie called Drive Angry, playing a dearly departed father back on this mortal coil to avenge the death of his daughter. According to that movie hellions rarely escape and return to Earth, but a quick look at other hellhound films reveals a different truth.

▶ Nicolas Cage, who starred in Ghost Rider, returns this weekend in another demon-inspired flick called Drive Angry.

Lots of actors have played earthbound versions of Satan. In The Private Lives of Adam and Eve, Mickey Rooney played Old Scratch as a piano playing jokester in red long johns and a straw hat with horns. Tim Curry played the Devil on TV in an episode of Dinosaurs called Life in the Faust Lane and years before he became an Academy Award winning composer. Danny Elfman did a strange Cab Calloway impression of Satan in the very odd film Forbidden Zone, but the most diabolically playful Devil to hit the big screen has to be Jack Nicholson as Daryl Van Horne in The Witches of Eastwick. As a mysterious character who grants wishes to three excitement hungry widows, Nicholson made the wicked character unforgettable, but he wasn't the first choice for the role. That was Bill Murray.

Probably the most famous representation of hell on Earth came in the form of one of the devil's underlings, Pazuzu, who inhabited the body of poor little Regan (Linda Blair) in The Exorcist. The images of Blair spitting pea soup and doing a 360 head spin have become the film standard for possession.

Not all of hell's citizens are out to do us harm, however. Director Guillermo Del Toro turned his favourite comic book into two fiendishly fun action movies — Hellboy and Hellboy 2: The Golden Army —starring Ron Perlman as the World's Greatest Paranormal Investigator, a red skinned demon named Hellboy who helps mankind by bumping back against the things that go bump in the night.

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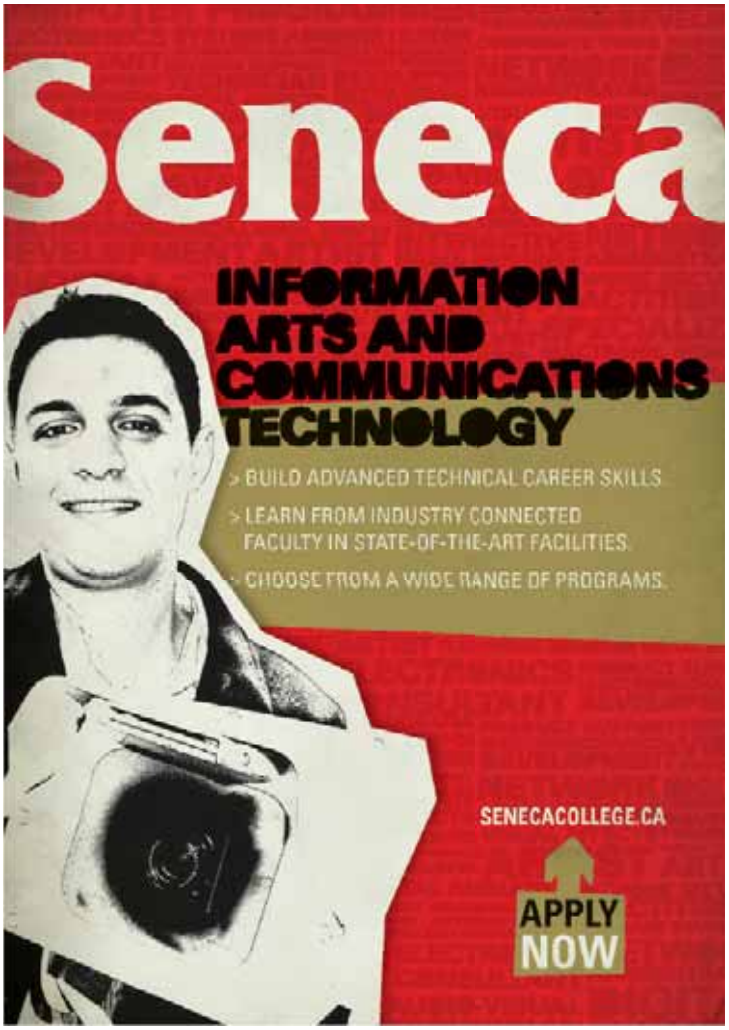
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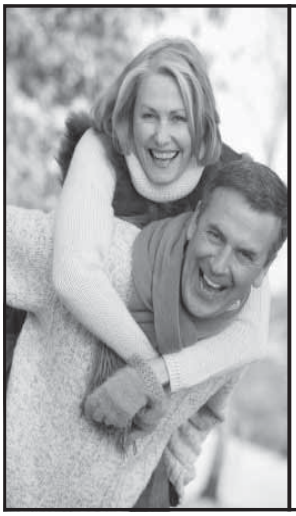

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DVD Releases

Get Low
Genre: Drama **Director:** Aaron Schneider
Stars: Bill Murray, Robert Duvall
●●●
Get Low is a film of topsy-turvy logic and mysterious intentions. Both are provided by Tennessee hermit Felix Bush, who looks like a ZZ Top refugee and who is played with splendid restraint by Robert Duvall.

It's the Dirty Thirties, and Felix is fixing to die. He's been holed up in his woodland retreat for some 40 years, harbouring secrets and avoiding people. He's ready to embrace the world again, but only to bid it adieu. He wants a living wake, in which everybody for miles around will come to tell stories about him.

The idea is music to the ears of cash-strapped funeral director Frank Quinn (Bill Murray) who sees no harm in satisfying the whims of a nutter, especially a rich one. Frank's assistant Buddy (Lucas Black) has a few moral qualms, which he's prepared to damp down because he has a wife and young baby to feed.

Get Low summons the eye to inspect every nook of this small town, and also its gnarly inhabitants, while the ear perks to the authentic bluegrass on the soundtrack.

We might wish for more of a story, but watching Duvall settle into a role that interests him is always a treat. ● PETER HOWELL

Due Date
Genre: Comedy **Director:** Todd Phillips
Stars: Zach Galifianakis
●●●
An uptight man trying to cross the U.S. on a deadline forced by the impending birth of a child is forced to share the journey with an annoying eccentric.
Hilarity ensues.

It's the stuff of nearly every road movie, as Due Date director Todd Phillips well knows — he made Road Trip and The Hangover.

He didn't make Planes, Trains and Automobiles or Rain Man, but he's seen them, as have we all seen them.

It all works better than could be expected, given that any movie with Zach Galifianakis playing a weirdo should be titled Past Due Date.
● PETER HOWELL

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Cyrus furious over father's comments

Miley said to be finished defending her dad's bashing of family problems

Miley Cyrus is putting a leash on her dad, Billy Ray Cyrus, as his media blitz escalates.

"When Miley found out her father was scheduled to appear on The View on Wednesday she went nuts," a source tells Popeater.

"Only last week, Billy shot his mouth off in GQ, and now he planned to sit down with (Barbara and Whoopi) and talk more crap about his family. No way would Miley or her team let that happen."

Billy Ray has used previous interviews to compare his daughter to Anna Nicole Smith and blame Disney and Hannah Montana for destroying his family.

"At first Miley defended her dad, wanting to believe he had been tricked into saying bad things by the magazine," another source says. "But after she found out about his media trip to New York, no more excuses could be made."

METRO

"At first Miley defended her dad, wanting to believe he had been tricked into saying bad things...But after she found out about his media trip to New York, no more excuses could be made."
SOURCE

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Miley Cyrus is said to be furious over her father's latest comments.

Lainey's Oscar file

▶ Natalie Portman

BEST ACTRESS: NATALIE PORTMAN

Winter's Bone

Portman is one of the few celebrities who can boast of a very low Erdos-Bacon score which calculates the "collaborate distance" of a person in relation to Hungarian mathematician Paul Erdos and actor Kevin Bacon. She starred with Bacon in New York, I Love You, and co-authored a psychology paper while at Harvard.

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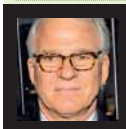
LAINEY, ETALK CORRESPONDENT AND AUTHOR OF LAINEYGOSSIP.COM

Celebrity tweets

Russell Brand [@rusty-rockets] I [illegible] The Simpsons pierced my nipples, this was never discussed- is this a human rights issue? (I'm a human)

James Franco [@james-franco] Hi everybody, here I am on Twitter! This is my FIRST tweet...



Steve Martin [@SteveMartinToGo] Through Oscar High Holy Week, I will be tweeting the traditions of our religion. METRO

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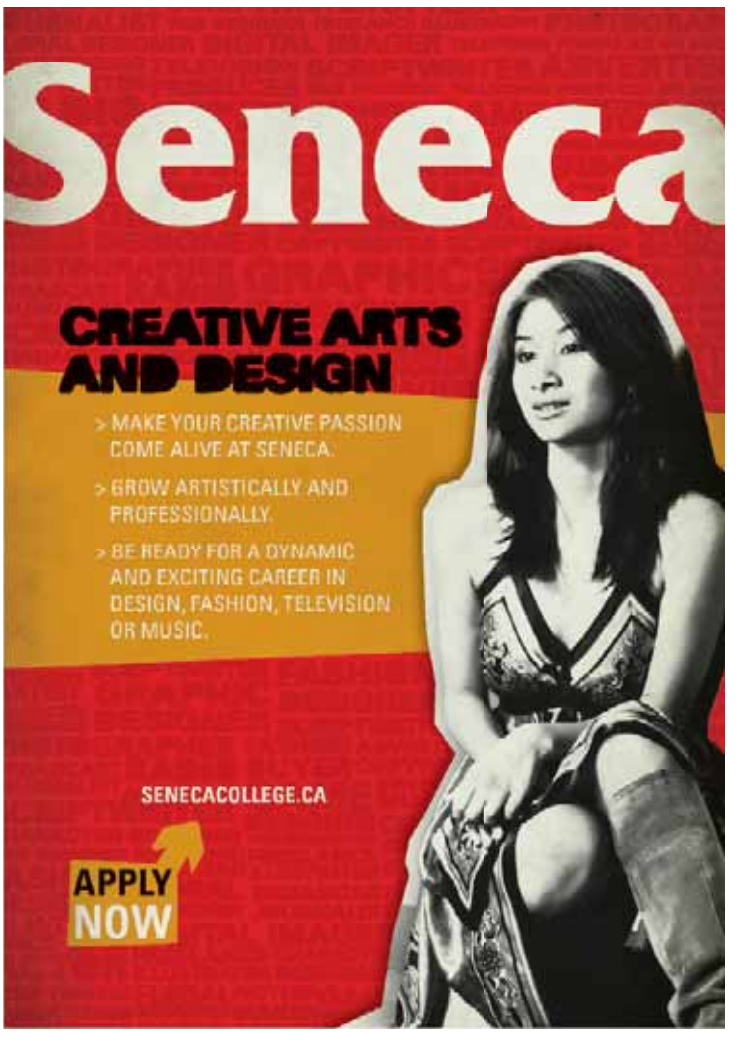
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Best known as a top spot for spring break, South Padre Island has plenty of options to keep visitors active ● Great beaches go along with some of the best water sports around

SUMMER MOORE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas' tropical hidden gem: South Padre

South Padre Island is famous as a spring break destination, with concerts, bikini contests and plenty of partying by the college kids who flock here by the tens of thousands throughout March. But South Padre isn't just beaches, bars and dance parties. It's also home to a major watersports scene, with year-round surfing, kiteboarding, windsurfing and other activities.

South Padre sits on the south end of the 55-kilometre-long Padre Island, which is the longest barrier island in the world. On the ocean side of the narrow strip the island is bordered by the Gulf of Mexico, while three blocks to the west, the bay side sits on Laguna Madre Bay. South Padre Island has a small year-round population, about 5,000, but spring break and summer vacations bring a million tourists a year. March is the busiest month after the summer months, with massive events like the Coca Cola Spring Break party at the Isla Grand Beach Resort attracting crowds of 12,000 to 18,000 college students daily for much of March.

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

▶ Windsurfing off the coast of South Padre Island.

But even spring-breakers will find plenty to do here aside from partying and lying on the beach: deep-sea fishing, parasailing, golfing, horseback riding, banana boat rides. For nature-lovers, there are more than 300 species of birds, a turtle rescue centre that offers tours and boat rides to see dolphins.

A steady airstream in spring and fall make Laguna Madre Bay a popular place for activities that rely on wind, like kiteboarding and windsurfing. Except for a narrow shipping channel, the water is just one to 1.2 metres deep from the island most of the way across to Port Isabel on the mainland several kilometres away. The shallow, calm water on the bay side makes it easy for watersport beginners to right themselves. Waves provide more of a challenge on the Gulf side for surfers and boarders with more experience. In March, water temperatures range from 16 to 20 C, with air temperatures from 21 to 30 C. Full wetsuits aren't usually needed, though some spring breakers may pair a wetsuit shirt with bikini bottoms or shorts.

Dave Nowak, co-owner of Island Native and an avid surfer, has been in South Padre since 1980. He says he's lived in many other places, including California, but prefers the friendly, laid back surf community here.

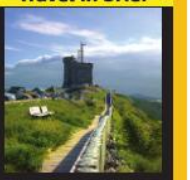
The surf is plenty intimidating, but surfers in the water, ranging in age from 14 to 60, laugh and joke around, while shouting free pointers to newcomers.

If surfing isn't your thing try kiteboarding. It's a mash-up of windsurfing, snowboarding and hang-gliding, with your feet strapped to a board, and your torso harnessed to a giant kite as you hang onto a trapeze-like bar attached to the kite. For safety reasons, the beach is split between kiteboarders and windsurfers. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

If You Go...

- **Getting There:** There are two airports nearby: Valley International Airport in Harlingen, about 70 kilometres away, and Brownsville-South Padre Island International Airport, 42 kilometres away. Most flights routed through Dallas, San Antonio or Houston.
- **Accommodation:** The island offers a variety of lodging, from hotels in every price range, to beachfront condo rentals with kitchens, perfect to shares with friends or family.
- **Windsurf:** Windsurf gear and lessons; windsurftheboatyard.com/ or 956-561-4189. Rentals, $45 a half-day, $60 full day, lessons $40 an hour. Make reservations and you'll be met at Windsurfing Park north of town.
- **Dolphins.** The Original Dolphin Watch boat ride. theoriginaldolphinwatch.com, $16 for adults, $13 for children.

Travel in brief



Newfoundland and Labrador says more than 518,000 people visited the province last year. The government says it's the first time more than 500,000 people have visited the province and it pegs the value of the visits at $400 million. It says since 2003, the province has more than doubled its annual spending on tourism marketing, from $6 million to $13 million. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

China's terracotta soldiers occupy Montreal fine arts museum in final show

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FLICKR: MAGGIEJUMPS

▶ Fort Lauderdale is more than just great beaches (but it has those too).

Exploring the wonders of Fort Lauderdale

Think the Greater Fort Lauderdale area is just for sunning seniors and spring breakers? No way. Whether you're there post- or pre-cruise, or on an extended visit, there is lots to do in the land of yachts, beaches and year-round tans.

WHERE TO STAY

To capture the elegance of 1960s Florida, stay in one of the 204 rooms or suites at Lago Mar Resort and Club, a AAA Four Diamond hotel with 500 feet of private beach on the Atlantic Ocean and a saltwater aquarium to greet guests at the door. The onsite spa makes its own line of beauty products, while the resort grounds include a couple of pools and tennis courts. lagomar.com

WHAT TO DO

Retrace the footsteps of the Rat Pack at The Village at Gulfstream Park, an outdoor shopping village and entertainment complex in Hallandale. The complex includes a number fashion boutiques — like Claudio Milano, Lilly McKay and Martier — along with a wide selection of restaurants and bars. There is also a casino and racetrack that was frequented by Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. thevillageatgulfstream-park.com

On the web

For more on Greater Fort Lauderdale, visit sunny.org.

WHERE TO PLAY

Get a better look at Greater Fort Lauderdale's natural beauty with a sea-level tour of the mangrove swamps. The Blue Moon Kayak Co. offers eco-tours of John U. Lloyd State Park — home to sting rays and the Florida manatee. Paddle through the water of Whiskey Creek in Dania Beach while learning about the sea marshes. bluemoonmiami.com

WHAT TO SEE

Located just off the appropriately-named Alligator Alley, Billie Swamp Safari on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation gets you in touch with the wilder side of Florida. Experience the Everglades firsthand on an airboat ride through the alligator-filled swamp, or travel on one of Billie's swamp buggies through an animal reserve featuring native and exotic animals — Ostrich: Yes. Florida panther: If you're lucky.

WHERE TO EAT

Todd English's Da Campo Osteria in the Il Lugano Suite Hotel features homemade pastas and fresh mozzarella that is warmed for you tableside (dacampoosteria.com). With food prepared on a wood-burning grill, YOLO, located on trendy Las Olas Boulevard, has a garden patio perfect for year-round people watching. yolorestaurant.com

HOW TO GET AROUND

With more than 300 miles of intracoastal waterways, the best way to see this Venice of America is by boat. Operating between 10 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., Water Taxi offers more than just a way to get around the city. The service makes stops at a number of hotels and key intersections in the city – all with running commentary from the driver, who tells tales about the city, its personalities and multi-million dollar mansions. All-day pass, $20. watertaxi.com.

METRO

Experiencing all that Myrtle Beach has to offer

The South Carolina hotspot has more than just great golf courses Get wet, eat well and party hard with Dolly

ROMINA McGUINNESS
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METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

FLICKR: CURTIS AND ERIC

▶ Beautiful Myrtle Beach, S.C.

FLICKR: MIKE BERGER

▶ Sit back and relax on Myrtle Beach.

Love it or hate it, Myrtle Beach, S.C., is a major hot spot for North American sun-seekers. Enjoy hot dog stands, palm-lined beaches and plenty of kitschy ways to spend the day.

Where I'd Wake Up

Marriott

In the most luxurious beach villas you can find on this part of the Atlantic coast. After a lengthy breakfast on your private terrace overlooking the ocean, make the most of the onsite spa and swimming pool … and delicious room service coffee. The beach is minutes away so once you're done go for a walk along the shore before you hit the sun lounge. marriott.com

Spend the Morning

Myrtle Waves Water Park

If you have spent enough time already soaking up the sun and feeling a little sleepy, a trip to a water park will wake you up. Discover your inner surfer dude in the wave pool or go down the "volcano," one of the world's tallest tubular slides. When its time to relax again, head to the lazy river for a slow water ride around the park. myrtlewaves.com

Where I'd Lunch

Collector's Café Gallery and Coffee House

Tuck into the tastiest best black bean or jumbo crab cakes followed by pan-fried scallops. Whether you have white chocolate cake and Tahitian vanilla frapuccino in the coffee house or tuck into the Cuban black bean cakes in the dining area it ticks all the boxes. collectorscafeandgallery.com

Spend the Afternoon

Sea Fishing and Ripley's Aquarium

One of the grandest aquariums in the U.S., expect to be surrounded by 10-foot sharks — happily confined by a massive tank. Stop by the Rio Amazon exhibit where you'll see piranhas and other brightly coloured fish from the Pacific. Try sea fishing in the afternoon. Captain Ricky Long organises trips for up to 12 people. ripleysaquarium.com; captrickylong.com

Where I'd Have Dinner

Frank's & Frank's Outback

The chef draws in flavours from all across the globe, creating an eclectic atmosphere and attracting diners in search of something a little more out there. For more intimacy, choose to sit nearer the candle lit back. Order anything from the wood fired pizzas to the seared tuna. franksandoutback.com

How I'd Spend the Night

Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede

The Dixie Stampede is for those that want total immersion into the nights' follies. Owned by Dolly Parton, the show is all about singing southern belles, jumping horses, rodeos and pirouettes along with lots of food (think barbecue ribs and buttered corn on the cob). If you're early, grab a daiquiri drink at the Dixie Belle Salon. dixiestampede.com

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Travelling alone can be hard at first, but it does get easier

JOURNEY WOMAN

EVELYN HANNON
JOURNEYWOMAN.COM

I've been travelling solo for 23 years and I absolutely love it. But it wasn't always like this.

I remember my first solo journey to Europe. It was just after my divorce and I couldn't stop crying. No, it wasn't simply because my heart was broken. I know now that my sadness was all about being totally alone, without a support system.

Since that time I've worked on learning the art of solo travel. Though I still feel alone when I travel, I know that's natural because I am alone. Now I enrol in classes along the way, seek out restaurants with communal tables or use my solitude to relax and just be me.

The difference between that first solo journey and now is that I have acquired the experience and the skills that help me to deal with the 'aloneness' and to reach out for company when I need it.

TO GET YOUR FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO JOURNEYWOMAN'S TRIP TIPS NEWSLETTER, GO TO JOURNEYWOMAN.COM

Shorty Awards

Finalist. Evelyn Hannon, @Journeywoman, was recently named a finalist for the Shorty Awards, (billed as Oscars of Twitter) in the category of travel. shortyawards.com

Never get lost at Disney World again

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/DISNEY

▶ The Disney World app.

Need maps, wait times for rides and restaurant tips for Walt Disney World and other central Florida attractions? There's an app for that.

Plenty of them, actually. And they could prove particularly useful for visitors heading to Orlando during Presidents Day week in the U.S. (beginning Feb. 24), traditionally one of the busiest times for theme parks.

Software developers started tapping into smartphone users' zeal for theme parks a couple of years ago, and dozens of applications are now available for iPhones, Droids and other handheld devices that can make park visits more efficient and fun. A few can be downloaded for free, but most cost a few dollars.

Most of the apps available are geared toward Walt Disney World, including Disney's own app for Verizon phones, but a handful are available for other attractions, too. For instance, a free iPhone app called Universal Wait Times (VersaEdge Software) did exactly what it promised when tested recently: provided accurate wait times for rides inside the two Universal Orlando parks.

The app proved to be particularly useful during a visit to The Wizarding World of Harry Potter attraction at Islands of Adventure, where wait times for the signature ride tend to be much longer than in other areas of the Universal parks.

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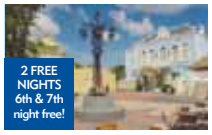

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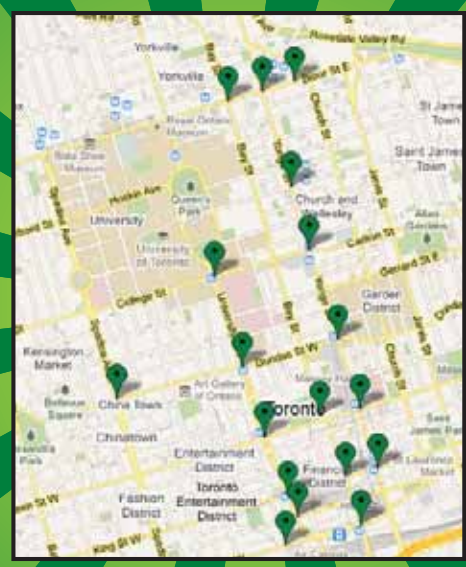

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Adventurous Victoria

There is plenty to get you excited in B.C.'s capital city Whale watching, high tea, magical gardens

FLICKR: PAUL MANNIX

In just a short boat ride from Victoria you can catch a glimpse of killer whales.

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

British Columbia's capital city, Victoria, is known for its regal charm and low key lifestyle, but there's a world of high-sea adventure waiting just offshore.

You can literally find yourself among orca pods, porpoises and grey whales in the morning, and still be back in time for the famous afternoon "high tea" ceremony at the historic Empress Hotel downtown.

During my three-hour whale watching tour off Vancouver Island, I was taken aback by the sheer number of mammals just hanging out. Not long into our bumpy journey we spotted a large rock jammed with noisy fat elephant seals. Beyond that, a pod of black and white killer whales dived in and out of the freezing waters of Juan De Fuca Strait, while overhead, three bald eagles soared. Pretty majestic stuff. In the distance we even spotted a giant grey whale, or at least what we thought was the tail of a giant grey whale.

Back on dry land there was still time to visit Victoria's most famous tourist attraction: the very colourful, and very huge Buchart Gardens. You pretty much have to block out the better part of a day to navigate your way through the 55 acres of rare and exotic plants and trees. People come from all over to experience what is considered the world's premier show gardens, and it isn't a free ride. It costs adults $27 for a chance to wonder among the flora and fauna. Still, if you're into gardens, you'd be hard pressed to find anything this impressive. I'm more a whale watching kinda guy. Seacoast Expeditions offers whale watching tours for $95 for adults, and $59 for kids.

Victoria sights

Other cool things to do in Victoria:

Visit the Victoria Bug Zoo Where else can you get up close and personal with multi-legged creatures from all over the world?

Check out Victoria's Butterfly Gardens A 12,000 square foot enclosure houses 3,000 exotic butterflies, along with tropical ducks, Flamingos and Koi fish.

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Cancun	Travel Mar 7 - Mar 14/wg	$145 + taxes & fees $287
Manchester	Travel Mar 6 - Mar 14/ts	$149 + taxes & fees $517
Panama	Travel Apr 2 - Apr 9/wg	$155 + taxes & fees $245
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Costa Rica	Travel Mar 7 - Mar 14/wg	$205 + taxes & fees $249
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TICO

For little taste buds

These recipes are great for making – and sharing – with your tiny helpers

ROSE REISMAN
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

Spring is fast approaching, which means it's time to get ready for March Break!

It also means that it's time to dig up some great family recipes.

Not only are these children's favourites, but they are also very nutritious.

First up are my Chicken Fajitas, which are creamy and rich tasting — minus the fat of regular fajitas.

This version has plenty of vegetables, along with some light cheese and sour cream. The whole family will love them

And for dessert, try my Peanut Butter and Jam muffins, which use natural peanut butter.

BOTH PHOTOS: ROSE REISMAN

Yields 6
Prep time: 20 min.
Cooking: 20 min.

▶ You can prep the filling for these Chicken Fajitas a day in advance and store it in the fridge.

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with foil and lightly coat with cooking spray.
2. Lightly coat a nonstick skillet with cooking spray and place over medium-high heat. Cook chicken for about 8 minutes or until cooked and no longer pink. Let rest for 10 minutes; slice thinly. Wipe out pan.
3. Add oil to pan and brown onion and garlic, about 4 minutes. Reduce heat to medium. Stir in red pepper strips and cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Remove pan from heat. Stir in parsley or cilantro, green onions and cooked chicken.
4. Divide the mixture among the tortillas. Top with the cheese, salsa and sour cream. Roll up.
5. Place on the prepared baking sheet. Bake in the centre of the oven for 5 minutes or until the fajitas are heated through and the cheese has melted. Cut in half and serve immediately.

Ingredients:

- 8 oz skinless boneless chicken breasts (about 2 breasts)
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 1/2 cups thinly sliced white onion
- 1 1/2 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 1 1/2 cups red bell pepper, cut into strips
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley or cilantro
- 3 tbsp chopped green onions
- 6 small (6-inch) flour tortillas
- 1/2 cup shredded light cheddar cheese
- 1/3 cup medium salsa
- 1/4 cup low-fat sour cream

Peanut Butter and Jam Muffins

Ingredients:

- 3 tbsp vegetable oil
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 large ripe banana
- 3 tbsp smooth natural peanut butter
- 1 large egg
- 2/3 cup low-fat sour cream
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- pinch of salt
- 3 tbsp raspberry jam

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Coat a 12-cup muffin tin with cooking spray.
2. Using an electric beater, combine oil, sugar, banana, peanut butter, egg, sour cream and vanilla in a bowl. Beat until smooth.
3. In bowl, combine both flours, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt with a spoon. Add dry ingredients to the wet ones gradually; stir until dry ingredients are moist.
4. Divide mix among the prepared muffin cups. Bake for 15 to 18 minutes, or until a tester inserted in the middle of a muffin comes out clean. Press gently in the centre of each muffin to make an indent and place jam inside.

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AVOIDING THOSE KITCHEN SINK CONTRACTS

Workplace Law

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DAN@TORONTO-EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM

Do contracts really matter or are they irrelevant? In the often confusing world of workplace law, why are some agreements upheld, when many others are simply overlooked?

The answer depends on the purpose that the contract is meant to serve.

Independent contractor agreements: It usually will not matter that workers have signed agreements confirming that they are not employees.

When this characterization is challenged, sometimes years later, courts and tribunals are apt to find the workers were truly employees. No surprise there. The real test is not what a contract says but how the parties behave.

"The virtuous man is never a novice in worldly things."
MARCUS VALERIUS MATRIALIS

Post-employment restrictions: Many contracts contain broad restrictions preventing workers from competing with their former employers or soliciting their old clients following their departure. Courts easily strike many of these "agreements" down.

This is because employers often take a kitchen sink approach to drafting employment contracts. They bargain for excessive protection, no matter how junior or administrative the employee. However, in seeking such protection, they sometimes get none at all.

Policy manuals: In one recent case, the employer argued that since the employee had not reported harassment as she was required to under the company's policy manual, the company could not take any steps to address it.

As a result, it argued, it was the employee who had breached the employment relationship, not the harasser. The court easily dismissed this notion.

Although terms in a policy manual can sometimes operate as conditions of an employee's job, those terms must be reasonable or they will not be upheld.

Termination clauses: Similarly, contractual language surrounding termination is often challenged.

This is because even without a contract, there is an implied right to reasonable treatment upon termination. Why would anyone agree to anything less?

Seldom do employees negotiate contracts on the same footing as their employer. Therefore, courts have developed a number of tests. If the contract is ambiguous, fails to respect statutory standards or is executed under duress, it will be set aside.

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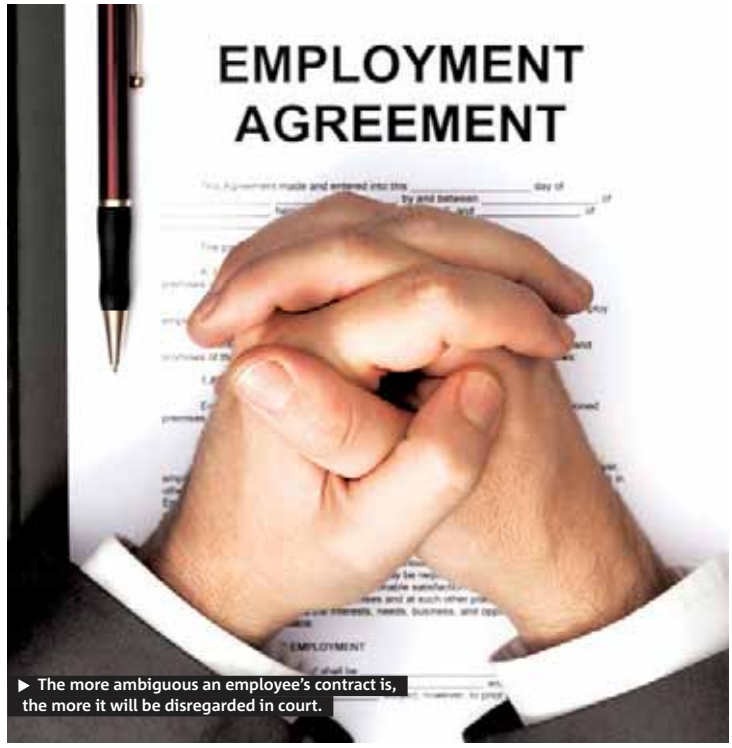

▶ The more ambiguous an employee's contract is, the more it will be disregarded in court.

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DREW HINSHAW
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The look, feel and font of the day's standard resumé has changed as frequently as the screens we peruse them on, and yet "people are still making the same resumé mistakes they've always been making," bemoans Blue Skies Resumé President Louise Fletcher.

"The number one problem people have," she explains, "is what they think their resumé is. They approach it as a place to list every company they've worked at, when actually they should think of it as an advertisement or a promotional piece."

"Not being concise enough is a huge problem," concurs certified resumé writer Laura Smith-Proulx.

And not just because you could over-share your way out of an interview.

"If you have every job you've had on there since 1979," she warns, "you're opening yourself up to age bias."

In the new millennium of buzzing smart phones and insta-resumé scanners, there's only one form of discrimination worse than age bias – pdf bias.

"Never send a Word or pdf copy unless it's specifically requested," cautions Margaret Riley Dikel, author of the Guide to Internet Job Searching.

Assume, she counters, that the bigwig making the company hires is breezing through the company inbox on a BlackBerry. "Take your Word doc and convert it into the body of your e-mail," she advises.

Show Your Math

Unless you're angling for a stint as a professional cliché writer, don't bother thesaurus-digging for synonyms for "self-motivated," or "forward-thinking."

When it comes to speed-reading résumés, Proulx notes, the powers-that-hire want to see math, not language arts.

"Use metrics to back up what you've done," she says. "If you worked on a great project, tell me what you did."

"Most people," Laura Smith-Proulx adds, "just don't back up and see what they can really do for an employer."

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Athabasca University

Students at a Nanaimo, B.C. secondary school are enjoying a new $50,000 computer lab thanks to their eco-friendly efforts Initiatives have included starting an environmental club and engaging in various environmentally responsible competitions

It pays to protect the environment

Students at Dover Bay Secondary School in Nanaimo, B.C. are celebrating their achievement in environmental responsibility with the installation of a $50,000 computer lab, the grand prize in a nationwide Staples Canada essay contest.

Last year every publicly funded elementary, middle and secondary school in Canada was invited to submit a 500-word essay for the Recycle For Education Computer Lab Contest, hosted by Staples Canada. Judges were looking for creativity, scope, and the steps taken to make the school more eco-responsible with measurable results.

"Providing the results was important and so was the genuine school spirit when it came to energy savings, recycling, and environmental protection," says Staples Canada president, Steve Matyas. "Best practises included activities like collecting rain water, changing to lower wattage fluorescent bulbs, or planting a garden to grow food for cafeteria meals.

In addition to Dover Bay, the four other finalists were: W.C. Miller Collegiate in Altona, Manitoba (2nd place); Heritage Park Secondary, Mission, B.C. (3rd place); L'école secondaire publique Gisèle–Lalonde, Orleans, Ontario (4th place); L'école secondaire Cardinal–Roy, Quebec City, Quebec (5th place).

"It was inspiring to read all the essays and learn what young people are doing to protect the environment," continued Matyas.

"To have people as young as six years old (and potentially younger) think positively about protecting our earth is such a special quality to have – and we are thrilled to recognize this act of hard work."

Dover Bay claimed the grand prize computer lab for such initiatives as starting an environment club, performing a waste vs. recycling audit, and participating in environmental competitions.

Staples' does set the bar high when it comes to both educational support and environmental responsibility. Every Staples location across Canada, accepts empty ink and toner cartridges for recycling, as well as cellphones and batteries. Some stores also run a service for unloading outdated electronic equipment and everywhere at Staples, the shelves are stocked with hundreds of eco-responsible products. More information is available online at staples.ca/recycleforeducation.

NEWS CANADA

ISTOCK

▶ Staples Canada contributed the contest's grand prize.

Get greenspired

If you would like to read the submissions from the Top 5 schools, log on to staples.ca/recycleforeducation.

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Raptors offer little resistance to Bobcats

114	101
BOBCATS	RAPTORS

D.J. Augustin had 23 points and eight assists as the Charlotte Bobcats cruised past the listless Toronto Raptors 114-101 last night despite losing top scorer Stephen Jackson to a strained left hamstring.

Gerald Wallace added 20 points and Boris Diaw added 16 points and nine assists for the Bobcats, who took control with a dominant second quarter before Jackson got hurt midway through the third.

Jackson, who scored 13 points, collided with Toronto's Amir Johnson after a driving layup and later limped to the locker room while clutching his left leg. He returned to the bench a few minutes later, but didn't play again.

Andrea Bargnani had 18 points and eight rebounds for the Raptors, who lost a club record-tying 11th straight road game.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pick traded

The Toronto Raptors acquired forward James Johnson from the Chicago Bulls yesterday for a 2011 first-round draft pick.

- Toronto acquired the selection from the Miami Heat last July in the Chris Bosh sign-and-trade deal.
- The six-foot-nine, 245-pound Johnson was selected by the Bulls with the 16th overall pick in 2009. He has averaged 3.8 points, 1.9 rebounds and 11.3 minutes over 78 career games.

RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ James Reimer races Islanders centre John Tavares for the puck last night.

Reimer does his part in win

Goalie makes 28 saves against Islanders, Kessel scores game winner

James Reimer is making sure the Toronto Maple Leafs are getting the most out of what little offence they have.

Phil Kessel's goal with less than five minutes to play gave the Maple Leafs a 2-1 victory over the New York Islanders last night.

Toronto has gone 2-0-1 in its last three games despite scoring just four goals — a testament to Reimer's solid play. The rookie goaltender made another 28 saves against the Islanders, denying Jack Hillen with his glove just before Kessel got the winner.

The Leafs sniper skated the length of the ice and scored his 23rd goal of the season at 15:19 of the third period, beating Al Montoya with a long wrist shot.

2	1
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS	NY ISLANDERS
LEAFS	ISLANDERS

Clarke MacArthur had the other goal for Toronto (26-27-7), which improved to 7-2-2 since the all-star break.

Matt Moulson replied for the Islanders (23-31-7).

The game was tied 1-1 heading into the third period as two of the hottest teams in the Eastern Conference tried to keep up their unlikely push for a playoff spot.

Defensive gaffes resulted in prime scoring opportunities at both ends of the ice, but solid goaltending from Reimer and Montoya kept the game tight.

Montoya, a former sixth overall pick making his 10th career NHL appearance at age 26, stood tall early. He denied Joffrey Lupul's bid for his first goal as a Maple Leaf in the opening minutes before turning aside an open look from Nikolai Kulemin.

He was finally beaten at 10:13 of the first period by MacArthur's well-placed wrist shot off the rush. That gave the Leafs winger a career-high 18 goals on the season.

Reimer was coming off a rare shutout loss — Ottawa beat the Leafs 1-0 in a shootout on Saturday — and appeared to have some luck on his side. Blake Comeau hit the crossbar on a clear breakaway early in the second.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 sports

Raptors preview

Bulls at Raptors, 7 p.m.
TV: SNET 1
Radio: 590 AM

Chicago (38-16) took a four-game winning streak into last weekend's all-star break, and will play for the first time with both Joakim Noah and Carlos Boozer healthy..

Toronto (15-41 heading into last night's game at Charlotte) will open a four-game homestand against the Bulls. The Raptors have fared better at home this season, going 10-18 at the Air Canada Centre while winning just five times on the road entering play last night.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RAPTORS +you

GRABOVSKI WORTH KEEPING AROUND

Opinion

JOHN GRIGG
THE HOCKEY NEWS

The question now: What's next?

Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Brian Burke has been at his best the past couple of weeks. He kick-started the 2011 trade-deadline season early by moving Francois Beauchemin to Anaheim, and followed it up with trades of Kris Versteeg and Tomas Kaberle.

In the process, Burke has added Joffrey Lupul — a player cast in a Burkian mould, young and big with offensive upside — along with draft picks, including two 2011 first rounders, and players selected in recent first rounds.

The Leafs' stable of prospects has been bolstered by puck-moving blue-liner Jake Gardiner and big centre Joe Colborne, 45th in The Hockey News' top-50 prospect list from our soon-to-be released Future Watch issue. Toss them in with No. 13 Nazem Kadri and current NHLer Keith Aulie and there's hope for the future.

But what now?

Burke has already moved his most valuable assets. Other trades are sure to happen, but will any be of the same magnitude? He has said he is open to trading the picks he has acquired to move up in the draft. And there have been whispers that Phil Kessel inquiries have been floated and listened to, but the chances of Kessel being traded are slim. He's not producing worth his salary and is still just 21 with a mountain of talent.

More importantly, moving Kessel would be tantamount to an admittance of guilt on Burke's behalf; that he paid too much in trading two first-round selections and a second rounder to Boston for the winger's services.

And although no one in Blue & White should be untouchable, Luke Schenn and Nikolai Kulemin are as close as anyone. Throw Mikhail Grabovski into that group as well.

He's turned me.

The shifty 27-year-old centre has blossomed this season. He has come into his own offensively and has become battle-worn playing top minutes for the moribund Maple Leafs. Grabovski has shown a grit to his game severely lacking in past campaigns, playing physical and through injuries.

He's not a No.1 pivot, but he's the best the Leafs have and is a building block. Here's guessing that a number of teams will inquire about Grabovski's services as Monday's trade deadline approaches. For my money Burke shouldn't budge off anything less than what he got for Kaberle — a first-round pick and a top prospect.

The old adage is that, even on bad teams, someone has to score. And make no mistake, the Leafs are a bad team right now. But Grabovski has become a good player, one worthy of high value. He won't be the most sought after centre come the end of the month, but teams will kick the tires.

And when that happens, Burke should tread carefully. It's one thing to shed current assets for future ones. It's quite another to give up entirely on the present for the future. Especially in Toronto, where the beloved Buds haven't made the playoffs in seven years and Leafs Nation is already in an unruly mood.

Knicks. Scoring punch

▶ Amare Stoudemire speaks yesterday during a news conference.

KATHY KMONICEK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amare welcomes trade for Melo

Amare Stoudemire has led the New York Knicks to a 28-26 record this season, but said yesterday they will be even more dangerous now that they've landed Carmelo Anthony in a trade with the Denver Nuggets. "Every team needs a 1, 1A punch," Stoudemire said. "And, so, with the ways that we both can score ... we're very versatile, so it's hard to guard us." The teams were awaiting the completion of a conference call with the NBA yesterday before the deal, which also includes the Minnesota Timberwolves, could become official.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	60	39	15	3	3	198	152	84	19-8-1-2	20-7-2-1	6-3-1-0	L1
d-Tampa Bay	59	34	18	3	4	179	185	75	19-7-1-3	15-11-2-1	5-3-0-2	L3
d-Boston	60	34	19	2	5	188	145	75	15-12-1-2	19-7-1-3	5-5-0-0	W3
Pittsburgh	61	36	20	2	3	178	147	77	20-11-1-0	16-9-1-3	4-5-0-1	L2
Washington	61	32	19	5	5	165	153	74	17-7-2-5	15-12-3-0	5-4-0-1	W2
Montreal	60	31	22	4	3	154	154	69	19-7-3-3	12-15-1-0	4-4-0-2	L3
NY Rangers	62	32	26	2	2	172	155	68	14-14-1-2	18-12-1-0	3-6-0-1	W1
Carolina	61	28	24	4	5	177	188	65	15-10-1-2	13-14-3-3	3-4-2-1	L2
Buffalo	58	27	25	6	0	166	171	60	12-15-2-0	15-10-4-0	5-4-1-0	L3
Atlanta	60	25	25	4	6	173	197	60	13-12-1-4	12-13-3-2	2-7-1-0	L3
Toronto	60	26	27	3	4	152	180	59	14-11-3-3	12-16-0-1	6-2-1-1	W1
Florida	59	25	27	3	4	155	163	57	12-11-3-3	13-16-0-1	3-5-1-1	L1
New Jersey	60	26	30	3	1	129	161	56	13-13-2-1	13-17-0-1	9-0-1-0	W8
NY Islanders	61	23	31	3	4	167	198	53	12-14-1-3	11-17-2-1	7-3-0-0	L1
Ottawa	59	19	31	5	4	132	194	47	9-16-2-3	10-15-3-1	2-6-1-1	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	60	38	13	4	5	202	142	85	21-4-1-4	17-9-3-1	7-3-0-0	W1
d-Detroit	60	37	17	4	2	202	173	80	17-9-3-1	20-8-1-1	6-4-0-0	L1
d-Phoenix	61	33	19	6	3	175	169	75	15-10-3-2	18-9-3-1	8-2-0-0	W8
San Jose	61	34	21	4	2	171	157	74	15-10-2-1	19-11-2-1	8-2-0-0	W4
Minnesota	60	32	22	1	5	158	156	70	16-12-0-3	16-10-1-2	6-3-0-1	W1
Nashville	60	31	21	5	3	156	143	70	14-6-4-3	17-15-1-0	4-4-1-1	L2
Calgary	62	31	23	3	5	186	178	70	18-10-1-2	13-13-2-3	6-2-1-1	L1
Los Angeles	59	32	23	2	2	163	142	68	17-9-1-0	15-14-1-2	6-1-1-2	L2
Anaheim	60	32	24	2	2	169	178	68	17-9-0-1	15-15-2-1	6-4-0-0	L3
Chicago	60	31	23	2	4	191	169	68	18-14-0-0	13-9-3-3	5-3-0-2	W2
Dallas	60	31	23	2	4	164	172	68	17-9-2-3	14-14-0-1	1-8-1-0	L5
Columbus	59	30	23	3	3	163	175	66	15-13-0-2	15-10-3-1	6-3-0-1	W2
St. Louis	59	27	23	4	5	166	176	63	18-10-1-3	9-13-3-2	5-3-1-1	L2
Colorado	60	26	27	7	0	177	205	59	14-14-4-0	12-13-3-0	1-8-1-0	W1
Edmonton	60	19	33	1	7	151	202	46	10-17-1-3	9-16-1-3	4-6-0-0	L1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Toronto 2 N.Y. Islanders 1
Phoenix 3 Philadelphia 2 (OT)
N.Y. Rangers 4 Carolina 3 (SO)
San Jose 4 Detroit 3
Columbus 4 Nashville 0
Minnesota 4 Edmonton 1
Colorado 4 St. Louis 3
New Jersey 1 Dallas 0
Boston 3 Calgary 1
Montreal at Vancouver
Chicago 5 St. Louis 3
N.Y. Islanders 5 Florida 1
Washington 1 Pittsburgh 0
Monday's results

WILD 4, OILERS 1

First Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — Chorney Edm (cross-checking) 0:16, Cogliano Edm (tripping) 4:55, Barker Min (tripping) 11:48, Stoner Min (tripping) 14:14.
Second Period
1. Minnesota, Havlat 19 (Zanon, Stoner) 9:23
2. Edmonton, Foster 4 (Omark, Gagner) 17:37
Penalty — Brunette Min (slashing) 5:55.
Third Period
3. Minnesota, Brodziak 13 (Schultz, Bouchard) 1:28
4. Minnesota, Spurgeon 1 (Zidlicky, Bouchard) 6:33 (pp)
5. Minnesota, Bouchard 6 (Clutterbuck, Madden) 14:33
Penalties — Peckham Edm (holding) 5:26, Jacques Edm (high-sticking) 10:07, Burns Min (holding) 11:39, Zidlicky Min (holding) 12:09, Jacques Edm (roughing, misconduct), Staubitz Min (charging, misconduct), Minnesota bench (unsportsmanlike conduct; served by Bouchard) 15:17.
Shots

Edmonton	8	7	6—21
Minnesota	5	7	11—23

Goal — Edmonton: Khabibulin (L,10-26-2); Minnesota: Backstrom (W,20-13-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Edmonton: 0-6; Minnesota: 1-4.
Att. — 17,321 (18,064) at St. Paul, Minn.

BRUINS 3, FLAMES 1

First Period
1. Boston, Lucic 25 (Krejci, McQuaid) 0:59
Penalty — Ryder Bos (hooking) 2:30.
Second Period
No Scoring.
Penalty — Glencross Cal (double high-sticking) 17:34.
Third Period
2. Boston, Marchand 19 (Bergeron, Ference) 5:55
3. Calgary, Glencross 20 (Iginla, Tanguay) 17:27 (pp)
4. Boston, Lucic 26 (Krejci, Recchi) 19:13 (en)
Penalty — Bergeron Bos (slashing) 16:56.
Shots

Boston	7	10	12—29
Calgary	13	9	7—29

Goal — Boston: Thomas (W,27-8-6); Calgary: Kiprusoff (L,27-20-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Boston: 0-2; Calgary: 1-2.
Att. — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
D.Sedin, Vcr	32	45	77
Stamkos, TB	40	35	75
H.Sedin, Vcr	14	58	72
St. Louis, TB	20	49	69
Crosby, Pgh	32	34	66
Perry, Ana	30	36	66
Zetterberg, Det	17	48	65
B.Richards, Dal	24	39	63
Ovechkin, Wash	24	38	62
E.Staal, Car	27	31	58
Iginla, Cal	25	32	57
Kesler, Vcr	33	23	56
Toews, Chi	20	35	55
Eriksson, Dal	19	36	55
Selanne, Ana	19	36	55
Kopitar, LA	17	38	55
Sharp, Chi	31	23	54
Giroux, Pha	20	34	54
Nash, Clb	27	26	53
Backstrom, Wash	15	38	53
J.Carter, Pha	27	25	52
Tavares, NYI	23	29	52
P.Kane, Chi	20	31	51
Yandle, Phx	10	41	51
Briere, Pha	28	22	50

Not including last night's games

GAMES

CANADA GAMES

MEDAL STANDINGS

At Halifax

Province	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Quebec	30	28	20	78
Ontario	18	15	16	49
B.C.	15	17	16	48
Alberta	14	12	18	44
Saskatchewan	4	3	3	10
Manitoba	3	2	4	9
N.B.	0	3	3	6
N.L.	0	1	4	5
Yukon	3	0	1	4
Nova Scotia	1	0	1	2
P.E.I.	1	0	0	1
N.W.T.	0	0	0	0
Nunavut	0	0	0	0

SOCCER

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Second Round
ROUND OF 16
First Leg
Yesterday's results
Copenhagen (Denmark) 0 Chelsea (England) 2
Lyon (France) 1 Real Madrid (Spain) 1

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE

Yesterday's result
Blackpool 3 Tottenham 1

TENNIS

WTA QATAR LADIES OPEN

At Doha, Qatar
Singles
First Round
Jelena Jankovic (5), Serbia, def. Fatma Al Nabhani, Oman, 6-1, 6-3.
Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Victoria Azarenka (6), Belarus, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.
Shahar Peer (8), Israel, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova, Russia, 6-2, 6-4.
Flavia Pennetta, Italy, def. Zheng Jie, China, 6-2, 6-2.
Peng Shuai, China, def. Kaia Kanepi, Estonia, 6-3, 6-2.
Vera Dushevina, Russia, def. Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez, Spain, 4-6, 6-1, 7-6 (1).
Dominika Cibulkova, Slovakia, def. Jarmila Groth, Australia, 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (8).
Klara Zakopalova, Czech Republic, def. Alexandra Dulgheru, Romania, 7-6 (4), 6-2.
Sania Mirza, India, def. Bojana Jovanovski, Serbia, 6-2, 7-5.

ATP DELRAY BEACH CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Delray Beach, Fla.
Singles
First Round
Mardy Fish (2), U.S., def. Bjorn Phau, Germany, 5-0, retired.
Kevin Anderson (5), South Africa, def. Donald Young, U.S., 6-7 (5), 7-6 (4), 6-2.
Janko Tipsarevic (6), Serbia, def. Ivo Karlovic, Croatia, 7-6 (14), 7-6 (1).
Kei Nishikori, Japan, def. Brian Dabul, Argentina, 6-2, 7-6 (5).
Ivan Dodig, Croatia, def. Igor Kunitsyn, Russia, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3.
Blaz Kavcic, Slovenia, def. Michal Przysiezny, Poland, 6-1, 6-4.
Dudi Sela, Israel, def. Marinko Matosevic, Australia, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2.
Ryan Sweeting, U.S., def. Igor Andreev, Russia, 6-2, 6-3.
Alejandro Falla, Colombia, def. Jan Hajek, Czech Republic, 6-1, 2-0, retired.
Doubles
First Round
Matthew Ebden and Sam Groth, Australiam, def. James Cerretani, U.S., and **Adil Shamasdin, Pickering, Ont.**, 6-3, 6-4.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Blake Wood, C Manny Pina, INF Jeff Bianchi, OF Lorenzo Cain and OF Jarrod Dyson on one-year contracts.
TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Fabio Castillo, INF Chris Davis, RHP Wilmer Font, LHP Matt Harrison, RHP Tommy Hunter, 1B Mitch Moreland and C Taylor Teagarden on one-year contracts.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
ATLANTA BRAVES—Agreed to terms with RHP Jairo Asencio, RHP Juan Abreu, RHP Brandon Beachy, RHP Erik Cordier, RHP Randall Delgado, RHP Cory Gearrin, RHP Craig Kimbrel, RHP Stephen Marek, RHP Kris Medlen, RHP Anthony Varvaro, LHP Lee Hyde, LHP Mike Minor, LHP Jose Ortegano, LHP Jonny Venters, INF Brooks Conrad, INF Brandon Hicks, 1B Freddie Freeman, OF Jason Heyward, OF Joe Mather, OF Jordan Schafer and OF Matt Young on one-year contracts.
HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with LHP Fernando Abad on a one-year contract.

BASKETBALL

NBA

CHICAGO BULLS—Traded F James Johnson to Toronto for the 2011 first-round draft pick Toronto acquired from Miami.
SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Signed F Steve Novak to a second 10-day contract.

FOOTBALL

NFL

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Designated C Ryan Kalilhave as the franchise player.
CLEVELAND BROWNS—Designated K Phil Dawson as the franchise player.
DENVER BRONCOS—Signed CB Champ Bailey to a four-year contract.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS—Released TE Jeremy Shockey.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Signed CB Roy Lewis and WR Isaiah Stanback.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Signed CB Ronde Barber to a one-year contract.
TENNESSEE TITANS—Named Dave Ragone wide receivers coach, Art Valero assistant offensive line coach, Chet Parlavecchio assistant special teams coach and Arthur Smith defensive assistant for quality control.

CFL

CALGARY STAMPEDERS—Signed LB Malik Jackson to a contract extension.
EDMONTON ESKIMOS—Released QB Jason Maas.
HAMILTON TIGER-CATS—Signed LB Jamall Johnson to a contract extension through the 2013 season.
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS—Re-signed LB Joe Lobendahn.

HOCKEY

NHL

BOARD OF GOVERNORS—Approved the sale of the Buffalo Sabres to Terry Pegula.
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Activated RW Derek Dorsett off injured reserve.
DETROIT RED WINGS—Reassigned G Thomas McCollum from Grand Rapids (AHL) to Toledo (ECHL).
NASHVILLE PREDATORS—Assigned G Anders Lindback to Milwaukee (AHL). Recalled G Mark Dekanich and D Jon Blum from Milwaukee.
PHOENIX COYOTES—Recalled C Kyle Turris and D David Schlemko from San Antonio (AHL).
ST. LOUIS BLUES—Recalled D Tyson Strachan from Peoria (AHL).
VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Reassigned D Yann Sauve to Manitoba (AHL).

CURLING

2011 SCOTTIES TOURNAMENTS OF HEARTS

At Charlottetown
Round Robin

Province (Skip)	W	L
Saskatchewan (Holland)	7	0
Ontario (Homan)	6	1
Canada (J.Jones)	5	2
P.E.I. (Birt)	4	3
Alberta (Kleibrink)	4	3
Nova Scotia (Smith-Dacey)	4	3
B.C. (K.Scott)	3	4
Quebec (Larouche)	3	4
NWT/Yukon (Galusha)	2	5
New Brunswick (A.Kelly)	2	5
Manitoba (Overton-Clapham)	1	6
N.L. (S.Devereaux)	1	6

Yesterday's results
Ninth Draw
Nova Scotia 8 Manitoba 7 (extra end)
Canada 10 British Columbia 2
Northwest/Yukon Territories 7 New Brunswick 4
Quebec 10 Newfoundland & Labrador 6
Draw 10
British Columbia 7 Quebec 5
Prince Edward Island 7 Alberta 5
Canada 10 Newfoundland & Labrador 4
Saskatchewan 8 Ontario 5
Draw 11
Alberta 6 Manitoba 5
Ontario 8 New Brunswick 1
Prince Edward Island 6 Nova Scotia 3
Saskatchewan 9 Northwest/Yukon Territories 7
Today's games
(All times Eastern)
Draw 12, 8:30 a.m.
Canada vs. Ontario; Saskatchewan vs. Newfoundland & Labrador; Quebec vs. Alberta; British Columbia vs. Prince Edward Island.
Draw 13, 1:30 p.m.
Alberta vs. New Brunswick; Northwest/Yukon Territories vs. Prince Edward Island; Ontario vs. Manitoba; Saskatchewan vs. Nova Scotia.
Draw 14, 6:30 p.m.
Nova Scotia vs. Newfoundland & Labrador; Manitoba vs. Canada; Northwest/Yukon Territories vs. British Columbia; Quebec vs. New Brunswick.
Tomorrow's games
Draw 15, 8:30 a.m.
Prince Edward Island vs. Manitoba; Alberta vs. Nova Scotia; Saskatchewan vs. New Brunswick; Northwest/Yukon Territories vs. Ontario.
Draw 16, 1:30 p.m.
Quebec vs. Northwest/Yukon Territories; British Columbia vs. New Brunswick; Canada vs. Nova Scotia; Manitoba vs. Newfoundland & Labrador.
Draw 17, 6:30 p.m.
Saskatchewan vs. British Columbia; Ontario vs. Quebec; Prince Edward Island vs. Newfoundland & Labrador; Canada vs. Alberta.

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Toronto	9	7	2	.778	101	78	—
Boston	9	6	3	.667	99	81	1
Buffalo	7	4	3	.571	78	67	2
Rochester	8	4	4	.500	72	87	2½
Philadelphia	8	4	4	.500	69	81	2½

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Calgary	8	5	3	.625	91	89	—
Minnesota	8	4	4	.500	80	74	1
Washington	9	4	5	.444	115	108	1½
Edmonton	8	2	6	.250	84	97	3
Colorado	8	1	7	.125	70	94	4

WEEK EIGHT
Saturday's games
Toronto at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Rochester, 7:35 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	40	14	.741	½
d-Miami	42	15	.737	—
d-Chicago	38	16	.704	2½
Orlando	36	21	.632	6
Atlanta	34	21	.618	7
New York	28	26	.519	12½
Philadelphia	27	29	.482	14½
Indiana	25	30	.455	16
Charlotte	25	32	.439	17
Milwaukee	22	34	.393	19½
Detroit	21	37	.362	21½
New Jersey	17	40	.298	25
Washington	15	40	.273	26
Toronto	15	42	.263	27
Cleveland	10	46	.179	31½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	46	10	.821	—
Dallas	40	16	.714	6
d-L.A. Lakers	38	19	.667	8½
d-Oklahoma City	36	19	.655	9½
Portland	32	24	.571	14
Denver	33	25	.569	14
New Orleans	33	25	.569	14
Utah	31	26	.544	15½
Memphis	31	27	.534	16
Phoenix	27	27	.500	18
Golden State	26	29	.473	19½
Houston	27	31	.466	20
L.A. Clippers	21	36	.368	25½
Sacramento	13	41	.241	32
Minnesota	13	44	.228	33½

Last night's results
Charlotte 114 Toronto 101
Indiana 113 Washington 96
Houston 108 Detroit 100
Miami 117 Sacramento 97
Milwaukee 94 Minnesota 88
Oklahoma City 111 L.A. Clippers 88
Denver 120 Memphis 107
Boston at Golden State
Atlanta at L.A. Lakers
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Houston at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Utah at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at New Orleans, 9:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Portland, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Miami at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Boston at Denver, 10:30 p.m.

BOBCATS 114, RAPTORS 101

TORONTO (101)
Weems 9-13 0-0 19, A.Johnson 1-2 4-6 6, Bargnani 7-15 4-5 18, Calderon 3-7 0-0 6, DeRozan 7-15 0-0 14, Davis 4-8 0-0 8, Bayless 0-4 11-12 11, Barbosa 2-6 0-0 4, Ajinca 4-6 1-2 10, Wright 2-2 1-1 5, Dorsey 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 39-78 21-26 101.
CHARLOTTE (114)
Wallace 3-6 14-15 20, Diaw 6-10 3-3 16, K.Brown 3-6 2-3 8, Augustin 8-15 5-5 23, Jackson 5-11 2-2 13, Mohammed 4-9 0-2 8, Henderson 5-11 5-8 15, Najera 0-1 1-2 1, Livingston 2-7 2-2 6, D.Brown 0-1 0-0 0, Carroll 0-2 0-0 0, McGuire 2-2 0-0 4. Totals 38-81 34-42 114.

Toronto	27	17	25	32	101
Charlotte	33	28	28	25	114

3-Point Goals—Toronto 2-9 (Weems 1-1, Ajinca 1-2, Bayless 0-1, Barbosa 0-2, Bargnani 0-3), Charlotte 4-14 (Augustin 2-7, Jackson 1-3, Diaw 1-3, Wallace 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Toronto 47 (Bargnani 8), Charlotte 48 (Mohammed 14). Assists—Toronto 25 (Calderon 11), Charlotte 25 (Diaw 9). Total Fouls—Toronto 32, Charlotte 19. Technicals—Calderon, Toronto defensive three second, Charlotte defensive three second. A—12,976 (19,077) at Charlotte.

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More visibility

The slope of the 2011 Chrysler 300's windshield has been tilted back by 7.5 centimetres at the top, and the thickness of the door pillars has been reduced.

These changes, Chrysler claims, have increased outward visibility by 15 per cent. Other tweaks for 2011 include an integrated rear-deck spoiler, twin oval-shaped exhaust tips and a set of fast-acting and very bright light-emitting diode (LED) taillights.

Changes to the front

While the outside of the 300 retains the same basic shape as last year's model, the car has been treated to a new front end, including projector-style headlights and a simplified grille that actually appears less distinctive.

For any prospective customers who prefer the original egg-crate design, Chrysler can supply it or an optional mesh-style "Bentley" insert for that custom look.

Engine

The 300's specs now include a brand new 292-horsepower 3.6-litre V6 base engine that replaces the outgoing and weak-by-comparison 250-horse 3.5-litre V6 engine.

For best thrust, Chrysler's 5.7-litre "Hemi" V8 returns for 2011 with 363 horsepower and the ability to run on only four of its eight cylinders under light load conditions, which saves a bit of fuel.

▶ Chrysler has discovered that the details really do matter and has concentrated on sculpting rather than renovating. This 300 C (V8) is particularly elegant in black.

Chrysler's back into the luxury game

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

Considering what has been going on at Chrysler for the last year or so, you can forgive the delayed introduction of the big and bold 300 sedan that was officially unveiled in early January at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

Since the automaker's takeover by Italy's Fiat organization, the designers and product planners now toiling for the reorganized Chrysler Group LLC have been busily reshaping, reinventing or rebranding just about every model in the company's lineup. And, well, that takes time.

Chrysler's flurry of activity sparked plenty of interest in Detroit, but what's all the hype about? The 300 doesn't look all that different from the 2010 model, does it?

As with the rest of the Chrysler line, the big sedan has been drastically upgraded in several crucial areas, chiefly the interior and under the hood.

For a base price of $34,400, which is unchanged from the 2010 300 (including destination costs), you can get the base Touring model. Of course there are numerous extra-cost items available that could boost the 300 C's base price well above the $45,000 threshold.

That's true luxury-car territory where the new 300 now really and truly belongs.

▶ The highlight of the redesign is likely the heavily upgraded material that blends new style and new materials for an effect that's more than the sum of its parts.

▶ A look at the 300's wheels and rims.

Chrysler 300

What you should know about the 2011 Chrysler 300:

- **Type:** Four-door, rear- /all-wheel-drive full-size sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (292); 5.7-litre OHV V8 (363).
- **Transmission:** Five-speed automatic.
- **Market Position:** Full-size sedans generate only a small percentage of auto sales, but the revamped 300 is seen as setting the tone for the brand. In that role, it projects new-found luxury and style more fitting of an upscale car.
- **Points:** Not as much of a statement as the outgoing 300; The interior redesign is a major step up; Standard 3.6-litre V6 packs a decent punch and is easy on gas; 5.7-litre Hemi option is fun, but you'll pay at the pump; AWD option almost mandatory for winter excursions; Chrysler is keeping the price at 2010 level.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 12.0/7.3(3.6, est.).

5 drive

By comparison

Ford Taurus
Base price: $29,600
Sharp looks with focus on comfort. SHO model delivers lively performance.

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Buick LaCrosse
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That's a lot of horsepower

The last-generation Buick Regal delivered plenty of sauce

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
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What's the 4-1-1?

- **Model:** 1997 to 2004 Buick Regal
- **Vehicle Type:** Sedan
- **Approximate used price range:** $1,000 to $8,000

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▶ 2002 Buick Regal

The Regal has long been the "sporty" model in Buick's lineup — and a last-generation model actually put down some pretty respectable numbers in the affordable sporty-sedan marketplace during its lifespan.

Available from 1997 to 2004, the last-gen Regal (now replaced by the new-for-2011 Regal), got a standard 3.8-litre V6 or a supercharged variant thereof, generating 200 or 240 horsepower.

The GM '3800' V6 is a simple, relatively efficient and relatively bulletproof engine — meaning it can be expected to perform without issue for years. All Regal models got a four-speed automatic transmission and drove the front wheels.

For an affordable car, the last-gen Regal delivered plenty of sauce.

Shoppers should note that the Regal "GS" got the supercharged engine, which will provide grin-inducing acceleration and make quick work of most Camrys and Accords at stop lights — though the up-level engine will consume more fuel and cost more to insure. The Regal LS with the standard engine is a more modest choice for some.

This five-seat sedan boasted features like automatic climate control, heated power seats, a sunroof, power accessories and an available "Monsoon" premium audio system.

What Owners Like

Performance and fuel mileage with either engine are typically highly-rated Regal attributes, as are the vehicle's looks, comfort levels and overall level of classiness.

What Owners Hate

Some cheap interior trimming and premature wear of some of Regal's interior surfaces are common gripes. Some owners wish for 'tighter' handling to match the engine performance, too.

Common Issues:

Though robust, the GM 3800 engine line was known for a short list of issues — including coolant leak in the intake system and bad manifold gaskets.

A GM-trained mechanic should be comfortable checking for these issues.

Wiring and sensor related issues may also cause driveability issues evidenced by sporadic power delivery, a rough idle or uneven acceleration.

Note that the majority of these issues are typically sensor related and not mechanical in nature.

Have the machine you're considering 'scanned' for any check-engine lights or trouble codes, which could indicate a problem.

If visiting a mechanic's shop ahead of your purchase, request an inspection for coolant, oil or transmission fluid leaks beneath the car, too.

The Verdict

A healthy and well-maintained used Regal should prove an affordable, comfortable, sporty and easy-to-maintain sedan.

The available supercharged engine in the Regal GS will also help connect with modern-day muscle-sedan enthusiasts, too.

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ON A MISSION TO TRANSFORM CHRYSLER

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ
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If you're rooting for Chrysler, you have to be thrilled that Sergio Marchionne is heading up the automaker, as well as its parent company, Fiat.

▶ Italian-Canadian Sergio Marchionne is the head of Chrysler.

Not only has Marchionne successfully orchestrated a turnaround at Fiat, and is making great headway on Chrysler, he's also quirky. What a bonus!

And to make sure everyone understands he is cut from a different cloth, he dresses the part. No white shirt, tie and business suit for Marchionne; wherever he goes you find him sporting a nice black sweater and a nice pair of black slacks.

The clothes match his public persona, which I would call "laid back intense."

While always calm, confident and clear speaking in public forums, you get the impression that when released from the burden of appearing tactful, like when in private discourse with colleagues, he might be even more clear speaking, as in, not mincing words at all.

He's rumoured to be temperamental and impatient on occasion with certain "not with the program" co-workers.

But other co-workers have nothing but praise and admiration for him, including fellow "half-Canadian" Ralph Gilles.

Gilles is the CEO for the entire Dodge brand, as well as Chrysler's design chief. Soon after he was born in New York, his family moved to Montreal where he lived until being accepted by Detroit's College for Creative Studies.

The Italian-born Marchionne immigrated to Toronto with his parents when he was 14. He went on to complete undergraduate studies at the University of Toronto, an MBA at the University of Windsor, and a law degree from York University's Osgoode Hall.

Marchionne is well known for his prodigious work load, often logging 14-to-18-hour days, seven days a week. Commenting on this output, Gilles once remarked, "Sergio invented an eighth working day."

Others have noted that Marchionne seems only to sleep when he is jetting between Detroit and his "other" job in Italy, which is overseeing Fiat, and its illustrious stable of marques (Ferrari, Maserati, Alfa Romeo, Lancia, etc.).

In a recent speech at the Automotive News World Congress, Gilles noted the new "matrix" management structure that Marchionne introduced into Chrysler.

The Top 4 executives each have two jobs; CEO of one of the brands (Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram), and one that encompasses the entire company (design chief, marketing chief, sales chief, international operations chief).

"We call it a Mexican standoff… We can't screw each other."

But Gilles noted that Marchionne's greatest contribution was instilling a new "can do" attitude: "You just can't tell us it can't be done anymore."

Marchionne is also known for having an eclectic office at Chrysler's HQ in Auburn Hills, Michigan.

For one thing, it's not on the top floor where the top brass usually hang out, but on the lower engineering floor.

From what we hear, it's also messy, filled with classical music CDs, and has an infamous Dodge poster on the wall with this message: "Give a Sh!t."

Toyota's giving you the right 'tools'

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

TOYOTA CANADA

▶ The 2011 Matrix features Toyota's Star Safety System.

The key to being safe in a vehicle is always being in control of it, whether you're braking, turning or just driving straight ahead on a slippery surface.

Auto manufacturers have devised a number of electronic systems to help ensure that, six of which make up Toyota's Star Safety System.

The system is standard and at no extra cost on every 2011 Toyota and Scion vehicle, says Sandy Di Felice, director of external affairs at Toyota Canada.

"The best way to stop any issues is before they happen, and we're giving you the tools to do that."

The six programs are anti-lock brakes (ABS), vehicle stability control (VSC), traction control, electronic brake force distribution (EBD), brake assist (BA) and smart stop technology. Each has a specific function, but all are interconnected.

ABS, which only comes on during panic stops, rapidly pulsates the brakes to prevent them from locking up, allowing you to steer around an obstacle while braking.

Should the vehicle start sliding, VSC will apply the brakes to specific wheels to bring everything back on the straight and narrow.

Traction control comes on when one wheel is spinning, applying the brakes and decreasing the throttle to focus on the wheel that has traction.

When you're driving on a varied surface, such as a road with wet patches, some wheels will have better grip than others.

EBD distributes more brake force to the wheels that have more traction, giving the car maximum stopping power where it can best be used.

Brake assist, on the other hand, determines how hard you're pushing the brake pedal in a panic stop.

"Imagine if a ball rolls into the street in front of your vehicle," Di Felice says.

"Your reaction time is so short, sometimes not enough pressure is applied and you could conceivably not brake in time. It will detect that you're panic braking and it will add pressure, helping avoid hitting the ball and possibly the child chasing it."

Finally, smart stop technology comes on if both the throttle and brake pedal are pressed at the same time, automatically reducing the engine power.

"It slows everything down and allows the customers to know they are in control and have full braking capability in their vehicles," Di Felice says.

Lowdown on ABS

- Anti-lock brakes, or ABS, will become mandatory on all new 2012 vehicles.
- The system pulsates the brakes so they don't lock up, which could potentially cause the tires to slide on the road like a toboggan.
- ABS allows you to steer while braking to help avoid a collision.
- However, it doesn't make the car stop any sooner and is not a substitute for keeping your distance from the car in front.

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▶ Volkswagen Jetta TDI Clean Diesel, Best New Family Car (under $30,000)

▶ Ford Fiesta, Best New Small Car (under $21,000)

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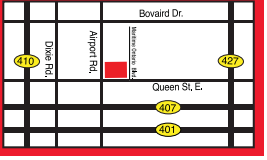

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OR **0.9%** FINANCING UP TO 60 MONTHS ON SELECT MODELS.†

2011 CIVIC DX Sedan

Standard features include:

• 1.8L, 140hp, 16-valve, SOHC, i-VTEC® Engine • Advanced Compatibility Engineering™ (ACE™) Body Structure • 6 Airbag System • 4-Wheel ABS • 15" Steel Wheels with Full Covers • 160-Watt Audio System with MP3/Windows Media® Audio Playback and Auxiliary Input Jack • Power Windows and Folding Side Mirrors • Fold-Down Rear Seatback

LEASE FOR / APR | AT
$198 | 0.9%
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS*

$0 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT
SECURITY DEPOSIT

or **0.9%**
financing up to 60 months.†

---

or **0.9%**
financing up to 60 months.†

LEASE FOR / APR | AT
$198 | 0.9%
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS*

$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT | **$2348 DOWN** ON APPROVED CREDIT

STEP UP TO A

2011 CIVIC DX-G Sedan Manual Transmission

Adds to or replaces DX features with:

• 15" Lightweight, Aluminum Alloy Wheels • Air Conditioning with Air Filtration System • Remote Entry System • Programmable Automatic Power Door Locks • Steering Wheel-Mounted Cruise Control

---

STEP UP TO A

2011 CIVIC SE Sedan Manual Transmission

Adds to or replaces DX-G features with:

• 60/40 Split Fold-Down Rear Seat • 16" Aluminum Alloy Wheels • Power-Assisted, Ventilated Front Disc/ Solid Rear Disc Brakes • Body-Coloured Door Handles • Body-Coloured Heated Side Mirrors • Power Moonroof with Tilt Feature

LEASE FOR / APR | AT
$198 | 0.9%
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS*

$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT | **$2894 DOWN** ON APPROVED CREDIT

or **0.9%**
financing up to 60 months.†

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HONDA

*Limited time lease offers on a new 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX (Model FA1E2BEX) // 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX-G (Model FA1E4BEX) // 2011 Honda Civic Sedan SE (Model FA1E6BJX) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Representative lease examples: 0.9% // 0.9% // 0.9% lease APR for 48 months. Monthly payment is $198 // $198 // $198 [includes $1,395 // $1,395 // $1,395 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100) and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $0 // $2,348 // $2,894 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $9,504 // $11,524 // $12,398. Other taxes (including HST and tax for fuel conservation, if applicable), license, insurance and registration are extra. 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. †Receive 0.9% purchase financing on select 2011 Honda Civic and 2011 Honda CR-V models only for a maximum of 60 months available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Example: based on a 2011 Honda Civic DX-G with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E4BEX) on a 60 month term at 0.9% APR and complete price of $20,110 [includes $1,395 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), air conditioning tax ($100) and OMVIC fee ($5)], the monthly payment is $342. Cost of borrowing is $463 for a total finance obligation of $20,573. License, insurance and registration are extra. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Retailer may sell/lease for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Honda retailer or visit hondaontario.com for full details.

Auto in brief

Ford seat belts nab AJAC award

AUTO NEWS. Ford's Rear Inflatable Seat Belts were declared the 2011 Best New Technology by the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC).

The award was announced last week during a press conference that opened the Canadian International Auto Show media day in Toronto.

"Safety is a key priority at Ford and we are honoured to win this year's Best New Technology award," said David Mondragon, president and CEO, Ford of Canada.

"Available initially on our all-new 2011 Ford Explorer, the rear inflatable seat belts work by spreading impact forces over five times more area than conventional seat belts."

Mercedes-Benz. Award-winner

▶ Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG

MICHAEL GOETZ/FOR METRO

Mercedes SLS AMG nabs Best New Design award

The Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG won the Best New Design award for 2011 presented by the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC). The award was handed out as part of the 2011 Canadian Car of the Year awards that opened the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto. The top three finalists for the 2011 Best New Design award were the Audi R8 Spyder, the Jaguar XJ Supercharged, and the Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG.

Edge named best utility vehicle

The Ford Edge was named the 2011 Canadian Utility Vehicle of the Year by the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC), during a press conference at last week's opening of the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto.

The Edge was also the winner of the "Best SUV/CUV" in the $35,000 to $50,000 price range, announced last October.

Other winners

- **Best New Prestige Car**
  Porsche 911 Turbo S
- **Best New Sports / Performance Car (over $50,000)**
  Cadillac CTS-V Coupe
- **Best New Minivan**
  Toyota Sienna
- **Best New SUV / CUV (under $35,000)**
  Hyundai Tucson
- **Best New SUV / CUV ($35,000 - $50,000)**
  Ford Edge
- **Best New SUV / CUV (over $50,000)**
  Volkswagen Touareg

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Retire your ride before time runs out.
Retire Your Ride rewards Canadians for recycling their older polluting vehicles – but the program ends March 31st. Don't miss your chance to get cash, transit passes or more. If your vehicle's model year is 1995 or older, visit Retire Your Ride.ca or call 1-877-PRE-1996 today.
THE LUNG ASSOCIATION Newfoundland & Labrador
APLPA
THE LUNG ASSOCIATION Manitoba
Retire Your Ride
THE LUNG ASSOCIATION New Brunswick
Climate Change Central
Clean Nova Scotia
Canada
Summerhill

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Get the OPTIONS you WANT today.

0%* APR PURCHASE FINANCING ON SELECT NEW 2011 FORD VEHICLES

+ GET UP TO $1000† WORTH OF NO EXTRA CHARGE OPTIONS OR ACCESSORIES, OR AGAINST THE PURCHASE OR LEASE OF MOST NEW 2011 FORD VEHICLES.

PLUS PAY $0 DOWN WHEN YOU LEASE OR PURCHASE FINANCE A NEW FORD TODAY.*//††**

CANADA'S BEST SELLING MIDSIZE SEDAN*

SEL MODEL SHOWN

2011 FOCUS SE
5.6L/100km hwy, 8.0L/100km city‡‡

OWN IT TODAY FOR ONLY
$266 ** @ **0%** APR
per month financed over 72 months with $0 Down. Offer excludes taxes and includes $500† Custom Event Incentive.

Vehicle includes
SPORT APPEARANCE PACKAGE
HEATED SEATS

2011 FIESTA SE
5.3L/100km hwy, 7.1L/100km city‡‡

LEASE FOR ONLY
$252†† @ **2.99%** APR
per month financed over 48 months with $0 Down. Offer excludes taxes and includes $500† Custom Event Incentive.

2011 FUSION SE
6.9L/100km hwy, 9.4L/100km city‡‡

OWN IT TODAY FOR ONLY
$19,779‡
Offer excludes taxes and includes $1,000† Custom Event Incentive.

PLUS

FORD LETS YOU RECYCLE YOUR **2003 OR OLDER VEHICLE & GET UP TO $2,300*** TOWARDS MOST NEW FORD VEHICLES.

This offer is in addition to incentives currently offered when combined with the $300 available from the Retire Your Ride program, funded by the Government of Canada on qualifying vehicles of model year 1995 or older. Incentives range from $1000 to $2000. Visit www.ford.ca for details.

In Partnership with Summerhill IMPACT, carheaven, Retire Your Ride Canada's Vehicle Recycling Program

Our advertised prices include Freight, Air Tax, and the Stewardship Ontario Environmental Fee.
Add dealer administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and applicable taxes, then drive away.**/††/‡

To get the options you want today, visit your Toronto Area Ford Store during the Ford Custom Car Event today.

Ford
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Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. † Offer valid from February 1, 2011 to March 31, 2011 (the "Program Period"). Receive a maximum of ($500)/($1000) worth of selected Ford custom accessories, factory installed options, or Customer Cash with the purchase or lease of a new 2011 Ford (Fiesta, Focus, Escape)/(Fusion, Mustang (excluding GT 500), Taurus, Edge, Flex, Explorer, Expedition, E-Series, Transit Connect) (each an "Eligible Vehicle") during the Program Period (the "Offer"). Offer must be applied to the Eligible Vehicle. The Eligible Vehicle must be delivered or factory ordered during the Program Period. Taxes payable on the total price of the Eligible Vehicle (including accessories and factory options), before the Offer value is deducted. This Offer is subject to vehicle, accessory, and factory installed option availability. Only one (1) Offer may be applied toward the purchase or lease of each Eligible Vehicle. This Offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. This Offer is not combinable with CPA, GPC, Daily Rental Allowances, the Commercial Connection Program, the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP), or the A/X/D/Z/F Plan Program. Some conditions apply. Offer available to residents of Canada only.†† Lease a new 2011 Fiesta SE Sedan and get 2.99% APR for up to 48 months on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Example: $17,649 (Cash Purchase Price (with $500 Custom Event incentive deducted)) with $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in, monthly payment is $252, total lease obligation is $12,096, optional buyout is $6,530, cost of leasing is $977 or 2,99%. Taxes payable on full amount of lease financing price after any manufacturer rebate is deducted. Additional payments required for security deposit, NSF fees (where applicable), excess wear and tear, and late fees. Some conditions and mileage restrictions of 80,000km over 48 months apply. A charge of 12 cents per km over mileage restrictions applies. Offers include freight, air tax, PPSA, Stewardship Ontario Environmental Fee and $500 Ford Custom Car Event Incentive but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. Taxes are payable on the full amount of the purchase price. ‡Program in effect from Jan. 4/11, to Mar. 31/11 (the "Program Period"). To qualify for a Ford Recycle Your Ride Program ("RYR") rebate ("Rebate(s)"), customer must qualify for and take part in either the "Retire Your Ride Program" delivered by Summerhill Impact with financial support from the Government of Canada, or Summerhill Impact's "Car Heaven Program." To qualify for the "Retire Your Ride Program", which offers $300 cash or rebate on the purchase of a 2004 or newer vehicle, customer must turn in a 1995 model year or older vehicle in running condition (able to start and move) which has been properly registered and insured for the last 6 months to an authorized recycler. To qualify for the "Car Heaven Program", which offers $300 cash or rebate on the purchase of a 2004 or newer vehicle, customer must turn in a 1995 model year or older vehicle in running condition (able to start and move) which has been properly registered and insured for the last 6 months to a select dismantler. Limit one vehicle (excluding all Fiesta, Ranger and Medium Truck models), in the amount of $1,000 CDN (Fiesta (excluding 2011 SE), Fusion (excluding 2011 S), Taurus (excluding 2011 SE), Mustang (excluding GT500, Boss 302, and 2011 Value Leader), Transit Connect (excluding EV), Escape (excluding 2011 XLT I4 Manual), Edge (excluding 2011 SE), Flex (excluding 2011 SE)) or $2,000 CDN (Explorer (excluding 2011 Base models), Sport Trac, F-150 (excluding Raptor and 2011 Regular Cab XL 4x2), F-250 to F-550, E-Series, Expedition, MKZ, MKS, MKX, MKT, Navigator) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Taxes payable before Rebate amount is deducted. RYR Rebates are available to residents of Canada only, excluding Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, and Nunavut. Eligible Vehicle must be purchased, leased, or factory ordered during the Program Period to qualify for a Rebate. Rebates can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Rebates not available on any vehicle receiving CPA, GPC, Commercial Connection, or Daily Rental Rebates and Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. © 2011 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. ‡‡Estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2011 Ford Fiesta 1.6L I-4 Manual/Focus 2.0L I-4 Manual/Fusion FWD 2.5L I-4 Manual. Fuel consumption ratings based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. •Based on R.L. Polk Canada, Inc. vehicle registrations data, YTD December 2010. Class is Intermediate sized cars.^

Shop 'Til You Drop… Your Rate

More Quotes = More Savings On Car Insurance

Do You Love Shopping Around For The Best Deal?

If you're like most people, you'll often spend hours doing research, checking flyers, looking for specials, and running from one store to another to make sure you get the best possible price on everyday items such as; clothes, electronics, furniture, and even groceries. Nothing beats the thrill of knowing you paid less for something by shopping at one place instead of the other, right? It all adds up – the time you invest and knowing where to go to get the best deals could end up saving you a bundle in the long run.

When Was The Last Time You Shopped for Car Insurance?

Sadly, even the smartest shoppers often don't spend nearly the same amount of time and energy shopping for car insurance as they do for other items. After all, car insurance can be confusing, it never goes "on sale" (it only seems to get more expensive), it isn't much "fun" to buy, and it seems like no one place always has the best prices. But what if one place compared the rates from over 30 insurance companies? And what if it would only take about 10 minutes? And what if you could end up saving hundreds, or even thousands of dollars? This is where InsuranceHotline.com can help by providing a free unbiased rate comparison service for your driving profile that can connect you with the lowest rate available through our large network of licensed brokers and agents.

What's The Quickest And Easiest Way To Pay Less?

In the end, saving on car insurance isn't much different than saving on everyday items. You simply need to search for that "better deal", check around for competing quotes, and know where to look. The advantage of starting your process with InsuranceHotline.com is that you only have to go to one place that accesses the rates from over 30 insurance companies, saving you the time and frustration of getting quotes individually from different insurers. In fact, you don't even have to leave the comfort of your own home to find out how much you could be saving on your car insurance.

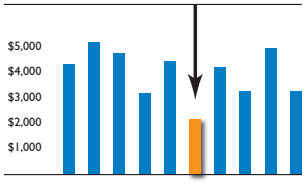
Don't Be Fooled By Others Offering To "Compare Quotes"

Unlike most of its competitors, InsuranceHotline.com does not sell insurance, is not a licensed broker or agent, and is not owned in whole or in part by an insurance company. This allows InsuranceHotline.com to be unbiased when providing insurance quotes and keeps its focus solely on finding lower insurance rates for consumers. By contrast, most websites offering to "compare insurance quotes" are owned by or affiliated with insurance brokers or agents and are therefore only capable of quoting rates from the limited number of insurance companies they represent, typically no more than 4 or 5.

Rate Comparison

Driving Record	Lowest Price	Highest Price	Savings
Clean Record	$958	$2,213	**$1,255**
1 Ticket	$1,018	$2,552	**$1,534**
1 Accident	$1,849	$3,753	**$1,904**

InsuranceHotline.com finds this rate for drivers – for FREE!



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Offering a mix of tech and style

Whether it's cars or technology, there is definitely a lot to take in at the Toronto auto show

AT THE AUTO SHOW

MICHAEL GOETZ
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Vehicles have changed considerably since the early 1900s, when Toronto first hosted auto shows.

But the show's successful three-ingredient recipe has changed little over the years, and this year's installment is no different — future cars, current cars, and classic and dream cars.

Ford Canada president, David Mondragon, was one of the many auto industry executives on hand during the show's press-preview day.

He noted how fortunate is this industry, in that consumers are actually willing to pay to come to auto shows, such as the CIAS, to check out the industry's products.

He also noted that automakers are no longer solely in the "transportation business," adding they've evolved to also become purveyors of entertainment and connectivity devices.

"Two of the five keynote speakers at CES this year were automakers," said Mondragon. (Las Vegas-based CES is the world's largest consumer electronic show).

Ford's overall chief, Alan Mulally, was one of those keynote speakers, and the Ford Electric Focus was his main prop. The Electric Focus is also here in Toronto, to flaunt its electric powertrain and MyTouch driver connect technology.

The latter provides a host of electronic tools to

MICHAEL GOETZ/FOR METRO

▶ David Mondragon, Ford Canada president

▶ 2012 Mazda3

teach and inspire efficient "electric" driving.

Rather than minimize the realities of battery range and the need for more conscious trip planning in an electric vehicle, Ford made it a core part of the ownership experience.

This is based on the premise that those interested in an electric vehicle actually welcome the challenge of understanding and utilizing the technology, so that they get the most out of it.

New-car technology has, and will continue to be, one of the major "draws"

MICHAEL GOETZ/FOR METRO

MICHAEL GOETZ/FOR METRO

▶ Mini Paceman Concept

MICHAEL GOETZ/FOR METRO

for auto show visitors.

But automakers are finding that technology is coming so fast and furious these days, that communication to consumers about technology matters is no longer easy or a sure thing.

Featured prominently at Mazda's Toronto show display was the upcoming 2012 Mazda3, which will be the first Canadian Mazda vehicle to feature a piece of the automaker's new SKYACTIV suite of technologies.

The Mazda will feature a new direct-injection engine with a very high compression ratio.

To some potential car buyers that will not mean much, but to others, it's "oh boy!"

Dan Romano, president of Mazda Canada, noted it will not be easy for Mazda to communicate all of SKYACTIV's benefits and technologies through traditional marketing methods.

"The challenge will be do it properly, and not try to do this through a marking campaign," said Romano.

"We'll first get consumers curious about SKYACTIV and then direct them to our web site, where they can learn as little or as much as they want to." Sounds like a good car show. Come and see the technology if you want to, or just come to the see the red Ferrari. Either way, it's all good.

SUBMITTED

▶ Ford Electric Focus

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0% Purchase Financing† Up to 72 Months
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Well Equipped From
$29,690
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Offer Excludes HST
0% Purchase Financing† Up to 72 Months

No payments for 90 days applies to finance offers on all new in-stock 2010, 2011 & 2012 Mazda models. The purchaser will repay principal monthly over the term of contract, commencing 90 days after contract date. *Offered Pricing for new 2010 Mazda 3(DAYS50AB00)/2010 Mazda 3 sport GX(DESXS80AB00)/ 2010 Mazda Tribute GX I4 FWD(WXD50AA00)/ 2010 Mazda5 GS (GSD50AA00)/2010 Mazda 6 GS I4(GASY60AA00)/2010 CX-7 GX(PWY60AA00)) is $15,995 / $17,995 / $18,995 / $22,390 / $24,890 / $29,690. All offers include freight, P.D.E. and fees. Offers exclude HST. †0% APR Purchase Financing is available on select new 2010 and 2011 Mazda vehicles. 0% Purchase financing is not available for 2010 Mazda 3 GX & GS/2010 Mazda 3 Sport models /2010 Mazda Tribute GX. Prices shown for 2010 Mazda 3 GX/2010 Mazda 3 Sport GX/2010 Mazda Tribute GX I4 FWD are cash prices - All offers include freight, P.D.E. and fees. Offers exclude HST. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $22,390/$24,890/$29,690 for the new /2010 Mazda 5 GS(E6S50AA00)/2010 Mazda 6 GS I4(G4SY60AA00)/ 2010 Mazda CX7 GX(PWY60AA00)with a financed amount of $20,000, the cost of borrowing for a 72 month term is $0, monthly payment is $277.78, total finance obligation is $20,000.00. Price includes freight, P.D.E. and fees. PPSA, license, insurance, taxes, down payment and other dealer charges are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Cash Rebate of $8,000 applies for 2010 Mazda RX 8. Cash Rebate amounts will vary for different models – see dealer for complete details. $500/$1500/$1000 Owner Loyalty Cash is available to customers who qualify for the Mazda Owner Renewal Program and can only be applied against the purchase price of new 2010 Mazda 5/2010 Mazda 6/2010 Mazda CX7. No Cash surrender value. Visit Yorkdale Dufferin Mazda or Mazda.ca for details. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order or trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Lease and Finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers valid February 16 – 28, 2011 or while supplies last. Prices subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or Yorkdale Dufferin Mazda for complete details. ‡Estimated fuel economy based on Natural Resources Canada Fuel Consumption Guide. Actual fuel consumption may vary. 2010 Mazda CX-7 and CX-9 models tested with standard side-impact air bags (SABs). U.S. Government star ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov)

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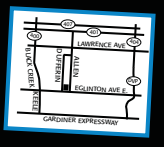
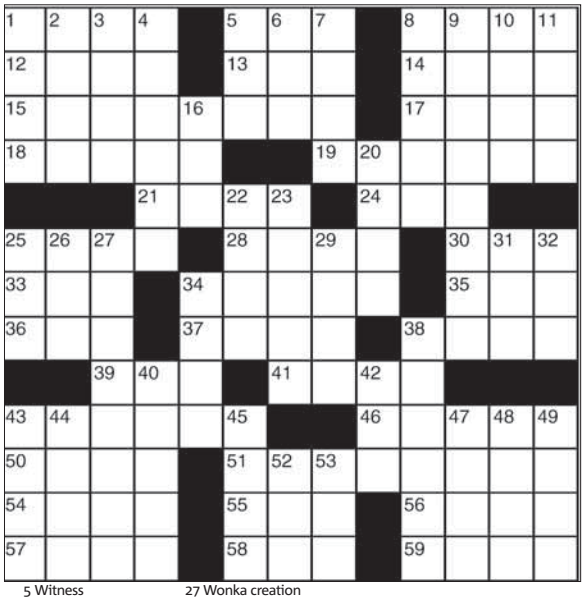


On your way home tonight, pick up Toronto's newest FREE DAILY metro play from one of our METRO PLAY AMBASSADORS around the downtown Toronto core!

Crossword



Across

1 Writer Kingsley
5 Hot tub
8 Adam and Eve's son
12 Dog owner's chore
13 Work unit
14 Burning heap
15 High score in darts
17 Ogler's look
18 Apportion
19 Kitchen rack fillers
21 "Memory" musical
24 Greek vowel
25 Hoist
28 Beams of light
30 Agree silently
33 — Khan
34 "Likewise"
35 Rotation duration
36 Thither
37 Fine
38 Information unit
39 "— Kapital"
41 Christmas refrain
43 Father Time's prop
46 Festive parties
50 Exile isle
51 "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" lifeline
54 Gridiron terminus
55 Bikini half
56 Great Lake
57 Shrek is one
58 Stitch
59 Timetable, for short

Down

"Mamma Mia" group
2 Manhandle
3 "— do for now"
4 Cheap merchandise
5 Witness
6 Crowbar
7 Census statistics
8 Gymnastic maneuver
9 Something superficially attractive
10 Genealogy chart
11 Divorce settlement portion
16 Depot (Abbr.)
20 Mexican money
22 "Star —"
23 Beelzebub
25 Funny Leno
26 Back when
27 Wonka creation
29 Vacillate
31 Feedbag morsel
32 Coloring agent
34 Slam-dance
38 Trumpet sounds
40 "— of Two Cities"
42 Early bird?
43 Lily variety
44 Stop up
45 Recedes
47 Caprice
48 "... baked in —"
49 Molt
52 Exist
53 Uncivilized

▶ Yesterday's answer

R	A	M	S		B	R	A		Z	I	T	I
I	D	E	A		E	A	T		E	D	E	N
M	O	N	U	M	E	N	T		P	L	A	N
			C	O	P		O	C	H	E	R	S
C	A	M	E	O		G	R	A	Y			
H	U	E	S		M	O	N	T	R	E	A	L
E	T	A		F	A	T	E	S		U	S	A
M	O	N	A	R	C	H	Y		F	R	A	T
			B	A	R	S		E	L	O	P	E
P	A	P	A	Y	A		A	G	O			
E	P	I	C		M	O	N	O	R	A	I	L
E	S	A	U		E	V	E		I	L	K	S
R	E	F	S		S	A	W		D	E	E	D

Sudoku

8					6	2	3	
	1			7		5	8	
9			3					6
				2			5	3
		7				6		
5	3			8				
7					4			5
	4	5		6			1	
	6	9	1					2

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

5	4	8	7	1	6	3	2	9
6	7	9	3	5	2	4	8	1
1	3	2	9	8	4	5	6	7
3	1	6	8	2	9	7	5	4
8	9	5	1	4	7	6	3	2
7	2	4	5	6	3	9	1	8
2	5	7	6	9	8	1	4	3
4	6	3	2	7	1	8	9	5
9	8	1	4	3	5	2	7	6

Send a KISS

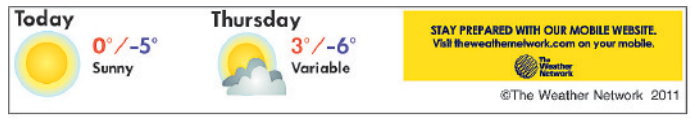
Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

To my bubby brister!! You are the love of my life and always will be! Thank you for being perfect in absolutly every way! Ps, I have a big surprise for you! **LOVE, JOEY**

My Beautiful Brigitte. I want to be the run in your pantyhose, but just know that I will never run out on you. With never ending love, Your Man of the Month, **JF XOX**

Stupid Grin, I sometimes can not believe one kiss three years ago would have changed my life. I loved you three years ago but Im so in love with you now and Im so glad that kiss happened. Thank you for being in my life I enjoy every minute we have together. **LOVE P.S**

Nate, Good luck on your studies. I'll always be here supporting and loving you. Yours always, **EMILY**



Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 As of today, you will be back in command and eager to make up for lost time. But don't be so eager that you neglect to use your brain. Energy can take you only so far.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 If you say the wrong thing today there is a real possibility that you will make an enemy of someone who has the power to cause you serious trouble. You are entitled to your opinions, but don't be so blunt!

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 If you want to move up in the world, start thinking about how you can accomplish it. Don't limit your thinking to past experiences, because you can create new experiences.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Mars, planet of energy, moves into one of the best areas of your chart today, so don't hold back. Be active, be ambitious and be adventurous. All things are possible, but you've got to believe in yourself.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Make sure you get paid the going rate for whatever task it is you are required to do today. Others will sell you short, but only if you let your guard down.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Now that Mars is moving into your opposite sign of Pisces, you must be careful how you relate to people in your personal life and at work. Try not to be too aggressive or they will be even more aggressive in return.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Even if you are the kind of Libra who does not much like crowds, you'll want to be out and mixing with people today. New social contacts could soon be business contacts, too.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Mars, your co-ruler, moves into the most decisive and dynamic area of your chart today. You will be even more ambitious and assertive than usual.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You must not let your emotions get the better of you. When dealing with family and friends resist the temptation to lay down the law because it will only make matters worse. Find gentle ways to persuade them.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You talk a good fight but how are you when it comes to getting down and dirty? As Mars moves in your favour today, you won't hesitate to back up your words with action.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Mars moves out of your birth sign today, but that does not mean you will be less energetic than you have been in recent weeks. You will, however, need to focus your efforts.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 This is going to be an extremely busy, and potentially extraordinary, time for you. With Mars, planet of ambition, joining the Sun and Mercury in your sign today you won't lack for self-belief. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

MARK HUMPHREY/ THE ASSOCIATED PRES

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

MARTIN MEISSNER/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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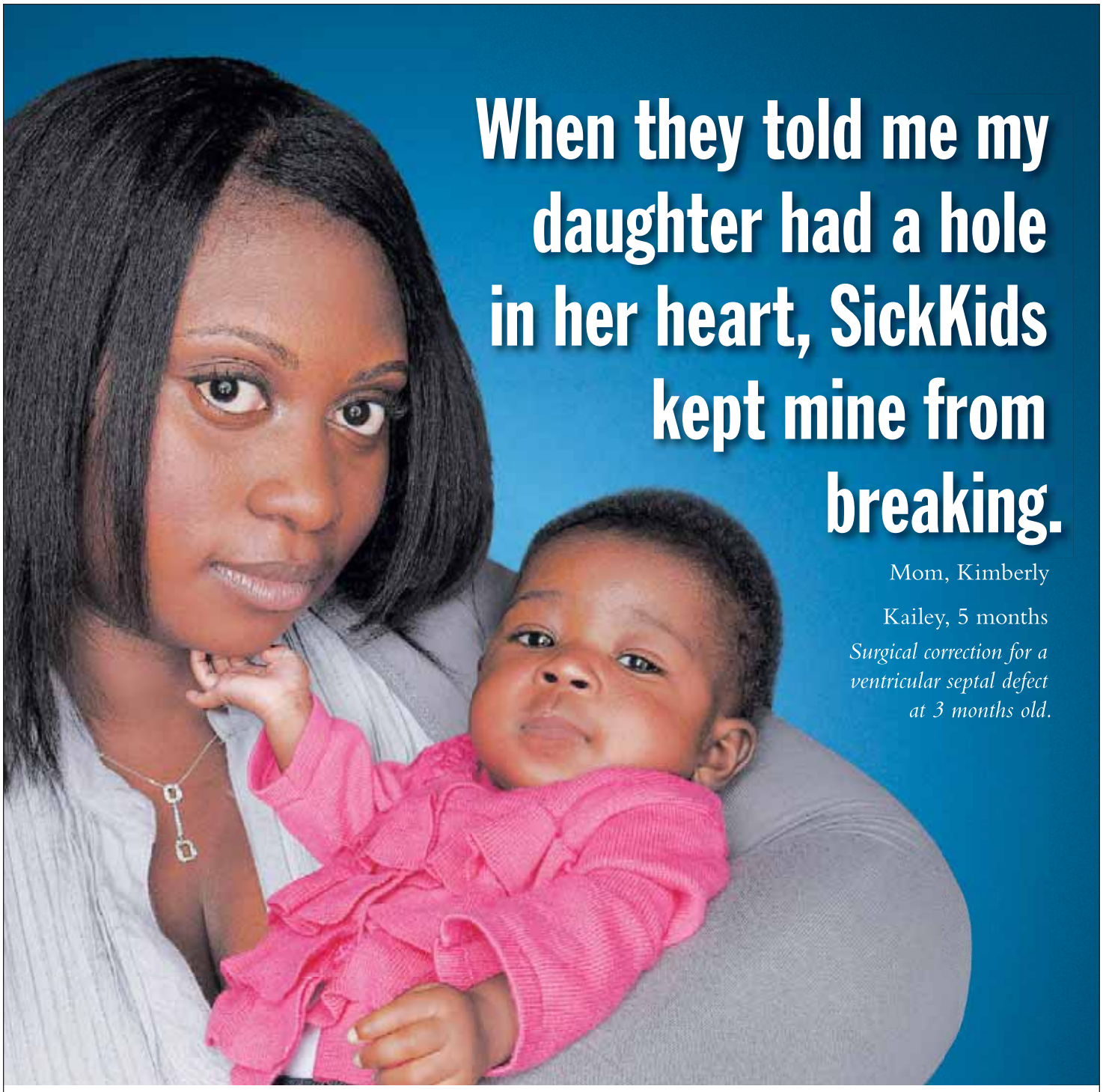

When they told me my daughter had a hole in her heart, SickKids kept mine from breaking.

Mom, Kimberly

Kailey, 5 months

Surgical correction for a ventricular septal defect at 3 months old.

Shock. Confusion. Despair.
Kimberly felt them all when they told her what was wrong with her baby.
Thankfully the doctors and nurses at SickKids explained what needed to be done and helped her through it.
By the time Kailey underwent surgery to close the hole in her heart, Kimberly knew her daughter was in good hands.
SickKids researchers are trying to find ways of preventing or treating heart conditions even before birth.
They're also seeking ways to minimize the risks of more conventional treatment like heart surgery.
We have to find more ways to improve the health of children.

Research is key.
Scientific breakthroughs will lead to better vaccines, drugs and other treatments that will slow disease and save lives.
Discoveries mean kids like Kailey will spend less time in the hospital.
Your donations help pay for leading-edge equipment and facilities that help our researchers turn lab findings into improved care for kids.
You fund the training of the next generation of child health experts.
Without you it will be simply impossible to sustain the world-class research that takes place at SickKids.
Help share our vision of "Healthier Children. A Better World."™

Please give generously by calling 1-888-4-SICKKIDS or visit sickkidsfoundation.com

Please donate now. **sickkidsfoundation.com** **1-888-4-SICKKIDS**

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Rio EX Convenience shown | *Forte5* SX shown | Rondo EX shown | Sorento EX-V6 Luxury shown

2011 KIA RIO

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$9,995**

+delivery, destination and fees of **$1,489**

ALL-IN PRICE **$11,484**‡

NOW GET UP TO **$3,700** IN CASH SAVINGS

HWY: 5.8L/100KM (49 MPG)
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THE ALL-NEW 2011 KIA FORTE5

OWN IT FROM **$233** PER MONTH FOR 60 MONTHS AT **2.9%** LOAN APR

amortized over 84 months with $0 down payment and remaining balance of $5,423.†
Includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,489

NOW GET **$500** IN LOAN SAVINGS◂

HWY: 5.7L/100KM (50 MPG)
CITY: 8.1L/100KM (35 MPG)

2011 KIA RONDO

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$16,995**

+delivery, destination and fees of **$1,684**

ALL-IN PRICE **$18,679**‡

NOW GET UP TO **$3,000** IN CASH SAVINGS

HWY: 7.5L/100KM (38 MPG)
CITY: 10.6L/100KM (27 MPG)

2011 KIA SORENTO

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$19,895**

+delivery, destination and fees of **$1,784**

ALL-IN PRICE **$21,679**‡

NOW GET UP TO **$4,100** IN CASH SAVINGS

HWY: 7.4L/100KM (38 MPG)
CITY: 10.6L/100KM (27 MPG)

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0% purchase financing available on select 2011 Kia models for up to 84 months on approved credit (OAC). 0% purchase financing available on all 2011 Kia Rios for up to 84 months on approved credit (OAC). Financing example based on 2011 Rio EX MT (RO542B) with cash purchase price of $15,184, 0% financing for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is $0. Delivery and destination fee ($1,455) and other fees ($34) included. License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. **"No Payments Until Spring 2011" (60-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on all new 2011 Kia models on approved credit (OAC). No interest will accrue during the first 30 days of the financing contract. After 30 days interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest monthly over the term of the contract. × Cash savings vary by model and trim. †Cash purchase price for 2011 Rio (RO542B)/2011 Rondo (RN75B)/2011 Sorento (SR540B) is $11,484/$18,679/$21,679 and includes a cash credit of $3,700/$3,000/$4,100 and delivery and destination fees ($1,455)/($1,650)/($1,650), OMVIC fee, environmental fee and air tax (where applicable), based on the MSRP of $13,695/$19,995/$23,995. †Monthly finance payment for Forte5 (FO550B) based on an MSRP of $18,184 is $233 with an APR of 2.9% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $5,423 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Delivery and destination fees of $1,455, OMVIC fee, environmental fee and air tax (where applicable) included. ◂Loan credit for 2011 Forte5 (FO550B) is $500 and is available on purchase financing only on approved credit (OAC). Loan credit varies by model and trim. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, PPSA, applicable taxes and variable dealer administration fees (up to $699). Vehicles advertised may include optional accessories or after-sale equipment and may not be exactly as shown. ^ Highway/city fuel consumption for 2011 Rio (RO542B) is 5.8L (49 MPG)/7.1L (40 MPG); 2011 Forte5 (FO550B) is 5.7L (50 MPG)/8.1L (35 MPG); 2011 Rondo (RN75B) is 7.5L (38 MPG)/10.6L (27 MPG); 2011 Sorento (SR540B) is 7.4L (38 MPG)/10.6L (27 MPG). The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada publication *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. ^2011 Kia Sorento awarded the Top Safety Pick by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. The award is applicable to all 2011 Sorento models manufactured after March 2010. Visit www.iihs.org for full details. △2011 Kia Forte5 awarded 2011 Small Car Of The Year (over $20,000) and Best Hatchback by Motoring 2011. Visit www.motoringtv.com for full details. ®The Bluetooth® word mark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. Some conditions apply to the $500 Grad Rebate Program and $750 Kia Mobility Program. See dealer for details. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Offers end February 28, 2011. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.